

NASH NEXT TOP 10 FINALISTS SPOTLIGHT | **BLAKE** AND **GWEN** MAKE IT OFFICIAL!

# NASH Country Weekly

COUNTRY FOR LIFE | DECEMBER 7, 2015

# 'Tis The Season

**PLUS!** OUR  
12 FAVORITE  
COUNTRY  
CHRISTMAS  
ALBUMS

**VINCE GILL** decks the halls of the Ryman and **11 more reasons** to be jolly this holiday season!

## INSIDE!

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WILLIAMS JR.**  
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DAVID NAIL**  
ANNOUNCES  
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## ***Dolly's Night***

Country music came to Washington, D.C., on Dec. 3, 2006, as the Kennedy Center Honors saluted **DOLLY PARTON** and other recipients for their contributions to entertainment. Some of

country's top guns took the Kennedy Center stage to pay tribute to Dolly in a lively and song-filled segment. **ALISON KRAUSS** reprised "Jolene," **VINCE GILL** soared on Dolly's classic "I Will Always Love You" and **SHANIA TWAIN**, accompanying herself on guitar, sang "Coat of Many Colors." The performance that got Dolly out of her seat came when **CARRIE UNDERWOOD** and **KENNY ROGERS** teamed up for a note-perfect rendition of the Kenny-Dolly duet "Islands in the Stream." Actress **REESE WITHERSPOON** gave an introductory speech and tickled the audience with some of Dolly's colorful sayings, including "It takes a lot of money to look this cheap." **REBA McENTIRE** joined the other performers onstage for a group bow to Dolly, wrapping up the entertaining segment.

## **2015**

### **DEC. 2: TOAST TO STARS**

**BLAKE SHELTON**, **LUKE BRYAN**, **FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE**, **LITTLE BIG TOWN** and **SAM HUNT** make up the honoree list for the sixth annual CMT Artists of the Year special, airing live from Nashville on CMT, Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. ET.



### **DEC. 3-11: WELL-SUITED**

There are still six dates left to watch **THOMAS RHETT** and **BRETT ELDREDGE** kick up a little dust on their CMT Suits & Boots Tour. Rounding out the tour as a special guest is Danielle Bradbery, who won Season 4 of *The Voice* in 2013.

### **DEC. 4: GRUENE CHRISTMAS**

Husband and wife **BRUCE ROBISON** and **KELLY WILLIS** will put concertgoers in the holiday spirit with classics like "Santa Baby" at their annual Holiday Shindig at Gruene Hall in New Braunfels, Texas. Fans can also expect a bevy of Texas Country standards, like Bruce's "Wrapped."



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The 26-year-old Canadian songbird may be pint-sized, but put a guitar in her hands and watch her grow.

### 48 Florida Georgia Line

The CMA Duo of the Year has a new single, “Confession,” that they hope will bring them musical absolution.

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Ride along as we take a look at the 10th anniversary of Dierks Bentley’s annual fundraiser.

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### 40 On the Cover

**VINCE GILL** and wife Amy Grant are ready to put you in the holiday spirit with a series of Christmas shows at the Ryman Auditorium. But that’s not all—we’ve got 11 more reasons to be jolly this season with our Twelve Days of Christmas.

## PLUS!



### 27 NEXT, PLEASE

Thanks to your votes, the Nash Next Challenge is down to its 10 finalists. As they gear up for their final challenge, we checked in with the newcomers to find out what makes them so unique.



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## FROM THE EDITOR



### Dear Readers,

OK, now that Thanksgiving is over we can finally get into Christmas, although the stores in my area were getting into Christmas right after Halloween. I decided to wait and give Thanksgiving its due. Now, on to Christmas: In this issue, we take a look at 12 (get it? ... the 12 days of Christmas) country music events/attractions that will make your holidays a little brighter. We kick it off with none other

than Vince Gill, who, joined by wife Amy Grant, will be taking up a little residency at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville for their annual Christmas show. If this doesn't put you in the Christmas spirit, nothing will. So as we enter into the happiest time of year, sit back, relax and let us bring you a little Christmas cheer.

If you've been following the Nash Next Challenge at [nashnextcountry.com](http://nashnextcountry.com) and actively voting for your favorite new star, then you will no doubt know the Top 10 contestants that we are spotlighting in our Nash Next section. If you haven't started following along yet, it's not too late, but let us introduce you to these talented newcomers—tomorrow's new stars.

We also have an inside peek into the parties that happened before the CMA Awards. Take the songwriting awards, for instance—these are given by BMI, ASCAP and SESAC, and boy, do they know how to throw a bash. Come with us as we give you an inside look at how your favorite stars party.

Don't miss next week's issue, on stands Dec. 7. Stay warm!

### SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!

LISA KONICKI, EDITOR IN CHIEF



### CORRECTION

In our Oct. 12 issue ["Riding High"] we ran a photo that we captioned as Rex Allen Sr. It is in fact a photo of Allan "Rocky" Lane. NCW regrets the error.

### FACEBOOK

George Strait and REAL country music—you can't beat the best!

**GAYLYNN TYREE**

Yes! [Chris Young] On the cover finally! Can't wait for this issue to arrive in my mailbox.

**JENNIFER REINARD**

@countryweekly @ChrisYoungMusic Young Country cannot thank y'all enough for spotlighting our Big Guy! We're all excited about the cover!

**KIMMY JOE DALTON**

@Kimmyjoe\_Dalton

With all the problems we have in this world, are we really paying attention to [Jason Aldean depicting rapper Lil Wayne] a frickin' Halloween costume?

**LIVIA GIURCO FLOOD**

I love Kellie [Pickler]'s sense of humor. She's purely entertaining.

**LIZ HARRIS**

Now she [Loretta Lynn] is country. Sorry, [Eric Church's new album] Mr. *Misunderstood*. You missed it by a mile.

**ANNETTE HARDMAN**

### TWITTER

@countryweekly @LorettaLynn Finally, a real country album coming out. You know it'll be pure country coming from Loretta.

**FRANK HATTER | @grumpy514**

@KeithUrban Congratulations on you being voted one of @countryweekly 10 Sexiest Men In Country.

**DEB MEISSNER | @dgm2**

## FROM THE READER



*Shoot us an email, a comment or a tweet and let us know what you think!*

Letters, Nash Country Weekly, 506 2nd. Ave. South, Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37210

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### A SIP OF BRANDY

If you are tired of the same old tailgate and party songs, check out Brandy Clark's CD, *12 Stories*. It is amazing! Her voice is so easy to listen

to, telling us stories without all of the yelling and screaming like so many country singers are doing these days. Looking forward to more from her.

**JULIE PORTER | Hermantown, Minn.**

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## FIRST TAKE

### CROWING CHICKS

The Dixie Chicks join Sheryl Crow (second from right) onstage at the 29th annual Bridge School Benefit Concert in Mountain View, Calif., in October for a stirring rendition of Sheryl's 1995 hit "Strong Enough."





# THE COUNTRY BREW

A TASTE OF ALL THINGS COUNTRY

*Opening Act*



## COUNTDOWN THROWDOWN

**CARRIE UNDERWOOD** will help you ring in the New Year with her performance on the ABC-TV special *Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve With Ryan Seacrest* 2016, Dec. 31 at 8 p.m. ET. The annual New Year's Eve favorite takes place from Times Square in New York City.

Carrie will serve as the headliner for the show, seen by millions around the globe. "There's nowhere else I'd rather be than New York's Times Square, one of the most magical places in the world, to ring in the New Year," Carrie noted in a release. "It's going to be a memorable night."

The evening-long party gets underway at 8 p.m. ET and lasts until 11 p.m., then resumes at 11:30 p.m., just in time to see the famous Times Square ball drop at midnight. Actress and comedian Jenny McCarthy will file live reports from Times Square.

photo by Jason Moore





(Above) **BUSH LEAGUE** Kristian Bush (center) recently performed at the Points of Light Conference on Volunteering and Service in Houston, where he met the former President George H. W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush; (below) **CHICK MAGNET** The Dixie Chicks flock around country-rock pioneer Neil Young at the 2015 fundraising concert to benefit his Bridge School for the disabled.



(Above) **HEY, GOOD LOOKIN'** Jamie O'Neal and actor Tom Hiddleston say hello at the after-party for the new Hank Williams biopic *I Saw the Light*, in which Tom stars as the bright but beleaguered country legend.



(Above) **O! SAY CAN YOU SEE SARA?** Sara Evans performs the national anthem in Kansas City, Mo., before Game 2 of the World Series; (right) **FLIPPIN' SWITCHES** Kacey Musgraves knows how to light up a stage, especially when it comes to kicking off the 7th annual Opry Goes Pink event supporting breast cancer awareness.





(Below) **ADMIRABLE ADMIRAL** Singer-actress Laura Bell Bundy was certified as a Kentucky Admiral at a Veterans Day event honoring her family on behalf of her grandfather; (below, center) **SAM & CAM, THEY AM** Cam was a surprise guest at Sam Hunt's outdoor concert event in downtown Nashville in October.



(Above) **LET IT GO** Tim McGraw tosses out the first pitch at Game 4 of the World Series at Citi Field in Queens, N.Y.; (bottom left) **PITCH PERFECT** Wade Bowen (left) meets with baseball legend Nolan Ryan in Atlanta; (below) **A RHETTER SWEATER** Thomas Rhett models the latest in bad-taste holiday chic for his Facebook friends.





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Draper James clothing and accessories are attractively displayed throughout the 3,000-square-foot Nashville flagship location.



## REESE'S CUP OVERFLOWS

Nashville native Reese Witherspoon chose her hometown for the flagship location of her Draper James chain of clothing, jewelry and accessories. Plenty of country-music celebrities were on hand for the gala opening of the "affordable luxury" retail location, from Reba McEntire—who knows a thing or three about creating a retail line—to the always fashionable Faith Hill and Kacey Musgraves. The store, in Nashville's trendy 12South district, glows with the vibrant colors commonly seen in its merchandise.



(Above left) Reese Witherspoon pauses for a photo with her husband, Jim Toth; (above right) Sheryl Crow (left) joins Reese at the Draper James opening reception.

(From left) Reba McEntire, Reese Witherspoon and Kacey Musgraves







Reese (right) with Nashville's mayor, Megan Barry



Faith Hill (left) and Reba McEntire



Hillary Williams (left) and Holly Williams

Lee Ann Womack



Cam (left) and Reese



The new, premiere brick-and-mortar Draper James location offers an experience not unlike visiting Reese Witherspoon's own Nashville home, after which the store is modeled, featuring such domestic elements as kitchen-island-styled countertops and bar stools (above right).



# OFFICE ROMANCE

After weeks of rumors swirling, representatives for **BLAKE SHELTON** and *The Voice* co-star **GWEN STEFANI** confirmed that the two are dating. The news came out on the eve of the CMA Awards in early November, when Blake would be under the same roof with his ex-wife **MIRANDA LAMBERT**. Like Blake and Miranda, Gwen divorced—from husband Gavin Rossdale—this past summer. At this stage, the new romance appears to be a pretty casual arrangement—Gwen downplayed their status in a radio interview, saying, “I never said nothin’ about being in a new relationship.” But the pair was spotted holding hands at a CMA after-party, and by ABC’s *Nashville* standards, that means things are getting hot and heavy. Stay tuned to see where it goes.



## Tommy Overstreet 1937–2015

### TOMMY OVERSTREET

could have been termed “Mr. Consistency” for his lengthy chart career, which spanned the years 1969–1986. Tommy, who scored 19 Top 20 hits during his career, died on Nov. 2 at his home in Oregon at age 78, after a series of health problems.

Tommy was born on Sept. 10, 1937, in Oklahoma City and moved to Nashville in 1967 to manage the Dot Records office. During the 1970s, he became a successful recording artist with hits such as “Ann (Don’t Go Runnin’),” which peaked at the No. 2 spot, “Heaven Is My Woman’s Love” and “I Don’t Know You (Anymore).” In the late 1980s, Tommy moved his operation to Branson, Mo. He released a book of his memoirs, *A Road Less Traveled*, in 2014.



## THE SECRET IS OUT!

**ERIC CHURCH** may have dropped a bomb when he released a surprise new album at the CMAs, but **DAVID NAIL** dropped a baby bomb when he and wife **CATHERINE** strolled the red carpet with a surprise of their own—the couple is expecting twins, a boy and a girl! David hinted at the news on his Twitter page when he posted, “Heading down the CMA red carpet with a couple surprises up my sleeve.” Not really up *your* sleeve, David. However, the new father-to-be cut a dapper figure on the red carpet as he escorted his wife, who looked precious in a fuchsia gown cradling her bump.





## BUS STOP

It sounds like **SHANIA TWAIN** is serious about hanging up her touring hat. In October, Shania auctioned off her 1999 tour bus for \$280,000 at the Toronto Classic Car Auction at the International Centre in Mississauga, Ontario. Before giving it up for auction, the country star autographed it for the highest bidder. If Shania plans to hit the road in the future, she'll need some new wheels.



## TONS OF FUN

A recently opened exhibit—**TENNESSEE ERNIE FORD: A LIFE ON STAGE**—at the Birthplace of Country Music Museum in Bristol, Tenn., highlights the 40-year career one of the Volunteer State's favorite sons. The one-of-a-kind exhibit features extensive historic photos along with audio and video elements that showcase the career of the "Sixteen Tons" singer. Over his lifetime, Ernie sold more than 90 million albums in country, pop and gospel music and starred in the top-rated TV variety show of its day. Tennessee Ernie Ford: A Life on Stage will run through Feb. 14.

## INSPIRED MUSIC

**CARRIE UNDERWOOD** was the big winner at the 2015 Inspirational Country Music Awards in October. The country superstar, who recently released her new album, *Storyteller*, took home three awards: Mainstream Song of the Year and Mainstream Video of the Year for "Something in the Water, as well as Mainstream Country Female Artist of the Year.

Other winners included Mainstream Country Male Artist of the Year

**T. GRAHAM BROWN**

and Mainstream Country Duo/Group of the Year **JOEY+RORY**. The victory was a bittersweet one for Joey+Rory, who recently announced that Joey's cancer had returned and that she will not undergo any further treatments.



## FIRE UP

In a new television ad campaign, country star and 17-year Army veteran **CRAIG MORGAN** has teamed up with Kidde Fire Safety to raise awareness about fire safety at home and to lend his support to the thousands of volunteer firefighters across the country. "As a former first responder, I know danger can strike at any time and I want to know my family is safe whenever I leave home," said Craig. "I'm glad to work with Kidde to help keep other families safe and help them find simple solutions to keep them connected to home."





# Metal Musings

MEGADETH frontman **DAVE MUSTAINE** recently relocated to the Nashville area so his daughter, **ELECTRA**, can pursue a country music singing career. Thrash-metal fans can breathe a sigh of relief—Dave said he has no intention of tackling the country genre. The same, however, can't be said for **KORN'S JONATHAN DAVIS**, who has been collaborating with **BIG & RICH** on a country record that pays tribute to the Bakersfield Sound.



## BIRTHDAYS

**DEC. 1, 1957**  
**KIM RICHEY**

**DEC. 2, 1983**  
**JANA KRAMER**

**DEC. 3, 1954**  
**PAUL GREGG**  
of Restless Heart

**DEC. 4, 1955**  
**BRIAN PROUT**  
of Diamond Rio

**DEC. 4, 1977**  
**DALLAS SMITH**

**DEC. 4, 1981**  
**LILA MCCANN**

**DEC. 5, 1963**  
**TY ENGLAND**

**DEC. 5, 1967**  
**GARY ALLAN**

## ALBUM RELEASE CALENDAR

**DECEMBER 4**



**Johnny Cash**  
*Man in Black: Johnny Cash Live in Denmark 1971*

**DECEMBER 11**



**Cam**  
*Untamed*

**JANUARY 15**



**Hank Williams Jr.**  
*It's About Time*

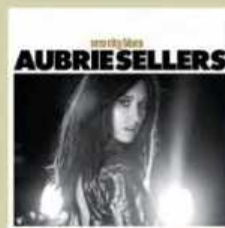


**Brothers Osborne**  
*Pawn Shop*



**Randy Rogers Band**  
*Nothing Shines Like Neon*

**JANUARY 29**



**Aubrie Sellers**  
*New City Blues*

**FEBRUARY 5**



**Johnny Cash**  
*Konkert v Praze (In Prague—Live)*

**FEBRUARY 12**



**Wynonna and the Big Noise**  
*Self-titled*

**FEBRUARY 26**



**Chuck Wicks**  
*Turning Point*

**MARCH 4**



**Loretta Lynn**  
*Full Circle*



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# DRESS for Success

PHOTOS BY CARISSA RICCARDI

**FOR MOST MEN**, shopping with their wife or girlfriend is torture, but for Dustin Lynch, a day of shopping with Nordstrom contest winner Alyssa Jaworski was nothing short of a good time.

Dustin took a quick break in the seating area of Nordstrom, located in Nashville's swanky Green Hills Mall, to chat with NCW about his role as an onsite celebrity clothing consultant for Alyssa. "I never get to shop anymore, so it's kind of fun," Dustin says. And from the looks of his million-dollar smile, it must be true. But how does a guy's guy with a penchant for camouflage and baseball caps advise a 17-year-old girl on fashion?

"I just put myself in her shoes and thought, 'If I had won a contest to fly to Nashville to shop with Tim McGraw or somebody I looked up to when I was 17, I would totally be freaking out,'" he says. He then smiles bashfully and adds, "I don't consider myself a star like that, but I think Alyssa knows who I am. So I knew today would be exciting [for her]. And the fact that it's Nordstrom, it gets no better than this. This is a great store."

Alyssa, who is about to start college in Detroit, was in the market for winter wear and Dustin was on point with his suggestions and advice. "I steered her away from a couple of things that were a little too bling," he says, laughing. "She definitely wants to do the boot thing. Hopefully I can help her with that."

So, too much bling is not a good thing if you want to attract Dustin's eye, but what can a fashion-savvy female wear if she wants to get the country singer's attention? "I love a good-fitting dress," he says, adding, "black is always tough to beat."

While he may love a lady in a long black dress, Dustin's own preference in attire is more about a great T-shirt. "That's my everyday look," he says. Even for this shopping trip, Dustin is in an athletic-cut, close-fitting tee and ball cap. He laughs and says, "I thought about dressing up a little bit today, but then I was like, 'You know what? I'm going to Nordstrom the way I always look.'"

And why not? Dustin's look is definitely working.

**TAMMY RAGUSA**

Dustin and contest winner Alyssa prep for a day of shopping at Nashville's Nordstrom.







Winter wear was definitely on Alyssa's shopping list, but every girl needs a great pair of shades (above) and, for this season, anything with fringe (below) is most definitely in.



Dustin teaches Alyssa a thing or two about wrapping it up, whether it's in a toasty scarf (above) or a warm hug (below).





# CINN CITY



Rhonda courtesy Webster PR; rolls by Tetra Images/Corbis

## RHONDA VINCENT SWEETENS UP THE HOLIDAY WITH HER MOM'S FAMOUS CIN- NAMON ROLL RECIPE.

Bluegrass queen **RHONDA VINCENT** is making the holiday season even brighter for her fans with her new Christmas album, aptly titled *Christmas Time*. Rhonda wraps her unmistakable voice around selections like “Angels We Have Heard on High” and “Dreaming of Christmas,” and welcomes guest stars Dolly Parton, The Oak Ridge Boys, Charlie Daniels and other guests for “Twelve Days of Christmas.”

To further celebrate the holidays, Rhonda loves to serve up her mom's homemade cinnamon rolls, a family favorite ever since she was a youngster. Rhonda says the family enjoys them as both a dessert and a breakfast treat.

Either way, you'll want to include this sweet delight on your holiday table.

**BOB PAXMAN**

## HOLIDAY CINNAMON ROLLS

Makes 24 rolls

2 cups lukewarm water

2 (¾ oz.) pkgs. fast-acting yeast

½ cup granulated sugar

¼ cup all-vegetable shortening

1 tsp. salt

About 5 cups Martha White All

Purpose Flour

No-Stick Cooking Spray

### FILLING:

½ cup firmly packed brown sugar

½ cup granulated sugar

2 teaspoons cinnamon

½ cup melted butter or margarine

### GLAZE:

2 tbsp. melted butter or margarine

1 cup confectioners' sugar

1 tbsp. milk

½ tsp. vanilla extract

**SPRINKLE** yeast over warm water; stir until dissolved. **ADD** ½ cup granulated sugar, shortening and salt. **STIR** until sugar is dissolved. Stir in enough flour to make a soft dough. Cover and let rise in a warm place until dough has doubled in bulk, about 45 minutes. Punch down dough.

Heat oven to 350°. **SPRAY** two 9-inch cake pans with no-stick cooking spray. **COMBINE** brown sugar, ½ cup granulated sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl. Divide dough in half. On floured surface, roll dough into a rectangular shape about ¼-inch thick and about 12 inches long. **BRUSH** with ¼ cup melted butter. **SPRINKLE** with half the cinnamon sugar mixture.

Beginning with long side, roll up dough jellyroll style. Pinch seam together. Cut into 1-inch slices. Place cut side in prepared pan. Repeat with remaining dough. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk, about 30 minutes. **BAKE** for 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Remove to serving plate if desired.

**COMBINE** all glaze ingredients in small bowl. Spoon over hot rolls. Serve warm.



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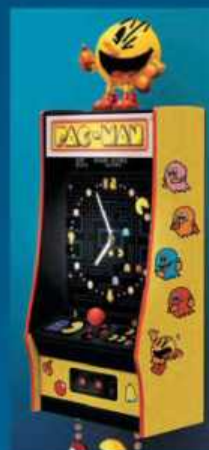
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## Album

### Eric Church

*Mr. Misunderstood*

EMI RECORDS NASHVILLE

A



Eric continues part of the thematic message he explored in *The Outsiders*, particularly with the title cut. On a musical level, this is much closer to the award-winning, and superior, *Chief*. *Mr. Misunderstood* is more of the stripped-down, heart-in-the-heartland version of Eric that won fans over in the beginning, without the overproduction that sometimes plagued *The Outsiders*. The album standouts certainly include "Mistress Called Music," which kicks off with a slow and sparse instrumental passage and builds to a glorious windup that lets Eric's soulful voice take



over. The final tune, "Three Year Old," fits well into the same vein, as Eric, certainly writing from a dad's point of view, reflects on the little joys one gleans from watching a young child. It could have easily slipped into cliché land, but Eric's understated vocal and subtle phrasing give the whole affair a poignant touch. With a range of topics that cover bullying ("Kill a Word")

and women running afoul of the law ("Chattanooga Lucy"), there's plenty to indulge in without coming away bored or feeling like you've heard it all before. Too bad this was released after the CMA Award voting period, because it could have given Chris Stapleton's *Traveller* some heavy-hitting competition. Hopefully, voters will keep this in mind for 2016.

**BOB PAXMAN**

## THE NCW JUKEBOX

'Tis the season to start building your holiday playlist. We've got more than a few suggestions.

**WILLIE NELSON**  
"Pretty Paper"

**VINCE GILL**  
"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

**RANDY TRAVIS**  
"Meet Me Under the Mistletoe"

**LORETTA LYNN**  
"Country Christmas"

**JOHNNY CASH**  
"The Christmas Guest"

**MARTINA MCBRIDE**  
"White Christmas"

**BROOKS & DUNN**  
"Winter Wonderland"

**DOLLY PARTON**  
"Hard Candy Christmas"

**ROBERT EARL KEEN**  
"Merry Christmas From the Family"

**ELVIS PRESLEY**  
"Blue Christmas"

**ALAN JACKSON**  
"Let It Be Christmas"

LOOK  
FOR THIS  
NASH COUNTRY WEEKLY  
PLAYLIST ON  
**rdio**





## Cole Swindell

*Down Home Sessions II*

WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE

C

Sometimes it's difficult to distinguish between Cole Swindell, artist, and Cole Swindell, college marketing major. His music, tuneful as it is, often feels precisely calibrated for a certain life-style segment as if it's a soft drink or a friendly fast food chain.



In the same vein, Cole's iTunes-only *Down Home Sessions II* has the ring of a special holiday promotion to it, like Starbucks' Pumpkin Spice Latte—momentarily enjoyable, yet wholly unnecessary. Songs like "Dangerous After Dark" and "My First Radio" employ the girl + truck + music equation from too many country songs of late, while "Should've Ran After You" mistakes minor chords for depth. On the upside, "Shuttin' It Down" retains a looseness in depicting an all-nighter that is like a dopey, half-in-the-bag hug from a mate. Ultimately, *Down Home Sessions II* is a bit like that piece of branding always on Cole's head: occasionally endearing, mostly unsurprising and utterly unwilling to change. **JON FREEMAN**

## Singles



## Frankie Ballard

*"It All Started With a Beer"*

WARNER BROS.

B+

Sometimes a song title leads you to believe that the actual song is going to be one thing and then it turns out to be completely different, like Frankie Ballard's new single, "It All Started With a Beer."

The title hints at a raucous, honky-tonking bro-country anthem. But what you're actually going to hear is a dreamy track that utilizes sweet imagery to recall how a relationship started over a couple of bottles of cold beer and a jukebox. The production starts out mostly acoustic with a cool, scratchy vinyl feel, but as it progresses, the arrangement is tickled here and there with just the right amount of electric guitar while still retaining its nostalgic feel. "It All Started With

a Beer," co-written by The Cadillac Three's Jaren Johnston and Neil Mason with Jeremy Stover, could have just as easily been that foot-stomping, tailgate rockin' tune, but props to Frankie or the writers or whomever on his team decided to mess with our auditory equilibrium by dialing this down a notch or 10. We scratched our heads, scrunched our eyes and cocked our noggins like Nipper peering into the Victrola, and then we played it again. And again.

**TAMMY RAGUSA**



## Ryan Kinder

*"Tonight"*

WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE

B-

If you think Ryan Kinder and his new single, "Tonight," may have popped up on your radar before, you're not crazy. Ryan, who was

previously signed to Bigger Picture Group—as were Chris Janson, Craig Campbell and Blackjack Billy—recorded a version of "Tonight" in 2013 before the label folded in 2014. As a recent Warner Bros. Nashville signee, Ryan is returning to country radio with the rerecorded tune. The song's "drunk dial" theme, which seems to be pervading country radio currently, is a bit stale. However, the strength of Ryan's smoky, growling vocals and his guitar chops during the bridge are enough of a one-two punch to make listeners take notice, despite the intrusive "oh-oh-oh-ohs" that muddle up the background.

The new tune—sonically and thematically—tries to bottle the magic of Lady Antebellum's 2010 smash "Need You Now." Nonetheless, this recycled tune whets the appetite enough to get excited for Ryan's forthcoming new music with Warner.

**JIM CASEY**



# Rainey Qualley

It's been a banner year for up-and-coming country singer Rainey Qualley. In addition to opening for Willie Nelson at Nashville's legendary Ryman Auditorium and making her Grand Ole Opry debut, Rainey dropped her debut EP, *Turn Down the Lights*, in June. NCW chatted with the beautiful Rainey about her music, working out and her love of all things animal.

MARIA DINOIA

## ARE YOU A READER?

Yes. I don't have a favorite author, but I have some favorite books. Right now, I'm reading *Brain on Fire* by Susannah Cahalan.

## WHAT'S BEEN YOUR WORST DATING EXPERIENCE?

My ex-boyfriend made me get out of the car and walk home.

## DO YOU HAVE A HABIT THAT YOU'RE MOST PROUD OF BREAKING?

I used to bite my nails and I don't do that anymore.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE WAY TO RELAX?

I get up every day to work out. That helps me relax. But when I'm home, I guess just relaxing in bed.

## WHAT'S YOUR MOST CHERISHED CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

When I was in school, my dad would pick me up early

and we'd have daddy/daughter Wednesday. It was so much fun.

## WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE MUSICAL GROUP WHEN YOU WERE A KID?

It has to be Hanson and The Spice Girls.

## WHAT MAKES YOU ANGRY?

I'm generally a calm person, but when people abuse animals, I get really angry.

## DOES YOUR NAME HAVE A SPECIAL MEANING?

Yes. My actual name is Ranchard and it's a family name.

## ARE YOU A LIGHT SLEEPER OR HEAVY SLEEPER?

I used to be a heavy sleeper, but now because of my travel schedule, I'm a light sleeper.

## WHAT IS ONE THING YOU ARE COMPLETELY OBSESSED WITH RIGHT NOW?

Well, I'm always obsessed with my two cats.







# Brett Eldredge

As country music fans are saying "yes" to Brett Eldredge's new single, "Drunk on Your Love," we caught up with the crooner to see what he would say "yes" to in our game of Check Yes or No.

Have you ever had a flat tire?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Do you like rain?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Have you ever snuck up on someone and surprised them?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Did you have to rush to get here on time?

YES ☐ NO ☒

Have you ever made someone cry?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Did you try on more than one thing tonight?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Do you floss?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Would you eat pickled pig's feet?

YES ☒ NO ☐

Are you ready for this to be over?

YES ☐ NO ☒



photo by da Mae Astute/AEC



# NASH NEXT

**NEW ARTIST SPOTLIGHT**



## **NEXT IN LINE**

**THE NASH NEXT  
CHALLENGE**  
is down to its  
10 finalists.



# LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MEET THE VERY DESERVING NASH NEXT TOP 10

The Nash Next Challenge invited aspiring country solo artists and bands to participate in an artist development competition where the ability to carry a tune was just one of the factors on which they were being judged. Contestants were asked to cover a song, compose an original jingle, broadcast a live performance via social media platform Periscope, create

an original video and to craft a collage on PicCollage, where fans could complete it with their own images. And with every challenge, the contestants hit their social media pages hard, asking fans, friends and family to vote. Hundreds of applicants began the process in August, and with each challenge, fans voted for their favorites until only 10 remained.

The remaining 10 will be mentored by Big Machine Records president/CEO Scott Borchetta for the final challenge: create an original music video, complete with animation. The winner will be determined by Nash Next judges Kix Brooks of Brooks & Dunn fame, record producer James Stroud and Cumulus senior VP of content & programming Mike McVay. ■



## STEEL UNION

### MEMBERS:

Rachel Potter, 31; Donny Fallgatter, 36; Josh Matheny, 32

### WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SOUND?

We've been told that our sound is different because instead of having just block harmony, we have three lead singers. Our harmonies are able to move intricately. It's also different to see a Dobro out front. We're sort of traditional bluegrass meets pop-country. One of our biggest compliments was when we were told we sound like a modern-day Fleetwood Mac. **-RACHEL**

### WHAT IS THE MOST EMBARRASSING

### THING YOU'VE DONE ONSTAGE?

I used to do a headstand onstage during this one guitar solo and have a shot poured in my mouth. One time, I got back up and was singing my lungs out when the band stopped. I was singing the wrong song. **-DONNY**

### WHAT IS A SONG YOU WISH YOU HAD WRITTEN?

"The Dance" by Garth Brooks. **-JOSH**

### WHERE IS THE CRAZIEST PLACE YOU'VE EVER PERFORMED?

Dubai. I had to be completely covered up as to not offend anyone over there. So, they had to sew sleeves and a high neck onto the only dress I brought. **-RACHEL**

**TWITTER:** @WeAreSteelUnion





## SYDNEY HUTCHKO

AGE: 26

### WHO ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

I'm influenced by a number of artists, songwriters and genres: Patsy Cline, Elvis, Trisha Yearwood, Miranda Lambert, Wynonna, Chris Stapleton, Karen Fairchild, Eric Paslay, Jessi Alexander, Carrie Underwood and Motown.

### AT WHAT AGE DID YOU REALIZE YOU WANTED TO MAKE MUSIC YOUR CAREER?

I knew I wanted to make music my career when I was a little girl. I just knew and never even thought of doing anything else.

### WHAT'S THE LAST SONG YOU HEARD THAT BLEW YOU AWAY?

There are songs that stick out in my mind for different reasons, but the one song that blows me away every single time I hear it is "House That Built Me" by Miranda Lambert, which was written by Tom Douglas and Allen Shamblin.

### WHO ARE THE KING AND QUEEN OF COUNTRY MUSIC?

Gosh, this is such a tough question! Can I say MirReba UnderCline and Blake "Possum" StapleStrait?

**TWITTER:** @SydneyHutchko

## BREAKING SOUTHWEST

**MEMBERS:** Kent Bell, 30; Kyle Gaston, 30; Lauren Hall, 26

### WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SOUND OR STYLE?

We all come from different musical backgrounds. No one is the same. I dig the '90s rock stuff. Kent grew up with Garth Brooks and George Strait on the radio. Lauren is classically trained in violin performance. Everyone brings something to the table.

**-KYLE**

### WHO ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

Garth Brooks, Tim McGraw, The Eagles.

**-KENT**

### WHAT WAS THE FIRST CONCERT YOU EVER ATTENDED?

The Fort Worth Symphony and Ballet performing Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. **-LAUREN**

### WHAT'S BEEN YOUR MOST EXCITING OR UNUSUAL FAN ENCOUNTER?

When they show up randomly at your house after a show . . . without an invite! **-KYLE**

**TWITTER:** @BreakingSW



## ADAM SEARAN

AGE: 31

### WHO ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

I draw a lot of inspiration from all genres of music. My main influences in the country genre go from Hank Sr. to Keith Urban. I am also heavily influenced by David Gray, Noel Gallagher, Neil Young, The Beatles and Oasis. However, my current playlist is nearly endless and full of a variety of modern inspiration. I am always looking for new and exciting undiscovered talent to listen to.

### AT WHAT AGE DID YOU REALIZE YOU WANTED TO MAKE MUSIC YOUR CAREER?

When I was 11 years old, "Wonderwall" by Oasis hit me so hard over the radio that I knew I had to learn guitar and music was it for me. I always loved music up to that point, but that song was the match that lit the fire for me to take it to the next level.

### WHAT THREE WORDS DESCRIBE YOU?

Loving, honest, ridiculous.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SONG TO COVER?

[Neil Young's] "Hey, Hey, My, My" because it's incredibly relevant and timeless.

**TWITTER:** @AdamSearan





## MATT WILLIAMS

AGE: 29

### WHO ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

There are so many musicians that I would call my musical influences. I tend to listen to everything from Lynyrd Skynyrd, Ozzy Osbourne, Hank Williams Sr., Hank Williams Jr., The Doors, all the way to Motown and smooth jazz.

### WHAT WAS THE FIRST CONCERT YOU EVER ATTENDED?

George Jones in Dothan, Alabama.

### WHAT'S THE LAST SONG YOU HEARD THAT BLEW YOU AWAY?

I performed with Reba McEntire on November 10 at Symphony Hall in Boston, Massachusetts. I've always loved Reba, but hearing "Fancy" in person definitely was something to experience. Her voice is just as powerful today as it was 20 years ago—you can't even describe it unless you have witnessed it.

### THE BEATLES OR ELVIS?

Elvis.

TWITTER: @MattWilliamsHQ



## TYLER BARHAM

AGE: 25

### HOW DID YOU GET STARTED IN MUSIC?

I got started singing along to the radio in the back seat of the car as a kid. My parents took notice to my voice and saw that I had a passion for singing and allowed me to start entering local competitions. In high school, YouTube came along and I decided to upload videos of me singing a few of my favorite country songs and that's when things really started to take off.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SONG TO COVER?

Chris Stapleton's "What Are You Listening

## KAYLEE RUTLAND

AGE: 20

### WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SOUND?

In my songs, I like to combine a modern sound with classic country elements. I want my music to be relatable for all audiences.

### WHAT THREE ALBUMS WOULD YOU TAKE TO A DESERTED ISLAND?

*Sounds Good Feels Good* by 5 Seconds of Summer.  
*Wanted on Voyage* by George Ezra. *The First Time* by Kelsea Ballerini.

### WHERE IS THE CRAZIEST PLACE YOU'VE PERFORMED?

I played a Dallas Cowboys tailgate party outside AT&T Stadium in the pouring rain. The fans were fun and wild and doing some crazy dancing.

### WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU DO AFTER A SHOW?

I love running offstage and getting to meet people and talk with fans.

TWITTER: @KayleeRutland



To." I've had that song in my set list for the past year and was excited to see him clean house this year at the CMA Awards.

### WHAT THREE WORDS DESCRIBE YOU?

Genuine, personable, dorky.

### WHAT'S THE MOST EMBARRASSING THING YOU'VE DONE ONSTAGE?

One time there was a table of senior ladies at my show at Puckett's Boat House. One of the ladies walked up to the stage, which made me think they had a song request. Turns out their request was for me to shake my butt for them. So I did. And yes, they gave me a tip.

TWITTER: @TyBlakeBarham





## KRYSTA NICK

**AGE:** 18

### HOW DID YOU GET STARTED IN MUSIC?

My family was always into music, so I always grew up singing and dancing around to loud country music, but I think I really discovered my love for it when I was around 7 or 8, just singing karaoke at a restaurant in my hometown. I just loved it! I would get all primped and practiced for my "show" almost every week.

### WHAT'S YOUR GO-TO KARAOKE SONG?

Well, when I was like 9, it probably would have been "Baby Girl" by Sugarland, but currently I would probably just go make a fool of myself and do "Downtown" by Macklemore & Ryan Lewis or "Wannabe" by The Spice Girls.

### WHAT THREE WORDS BEST DESCRIBE YOU?

Creative, focused, playful. Does that make me sound like a puppy?

### WHAT'S A SONG YOU WISH YOU HAD WRITTEN?

Oh gosh, there are too many. Probably "Late to the Party" by Kacey Musgraves. It's too pretty and too sweet.

**TWITTER:** @KrystaNick

## TIGIRLILY

### MEMBERS:

Krista Slaubaugh, 17; Kendra Slaubaugh, 19

### WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SOUND OR STYLE?

Growing up, we listened to all kinds of music. When we started to write our own music, we incorporated all those different genres to create the Tigirlily sound. We also have very different writing styles, so when we write together, we get every aspect of Tigirlily. We always say we want our music to be funky-fresh.

**-KENDRA**

### WHO ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

My main musical influences include Taylor Swift, Keith Urban, Brad Paisley, Rascal Flatts, Paramore and The Band Perry.

**-KRISTA**

### WHAT'S BEEN YOUR MOST EXCITING OR UNUSUAL FAN ENCOUNTER?

After a concert, a guy came up to us and gave us both jelly beans, but he put his number on my bag of jelly beans. I ended up texting him, and now we are really good friends. **-KRISTA**

### WHAT'S THE LAST SONG YOU HEARD THAT BLEW YOU AWAY?

"Burning House" by Cam. **-KENDRA**

**TWITTER:** @Tigirlily



## HANNAH ROSE

**AGE:** 20

### HOW DID YOU GET STARTED IN MUSIC?

I grew up in a very musical family. My dad was a traveling pastor and musician and he would bring me along to sing with him when he would play a show. When at home, my sisters and I loved to perform for my parents. Anytime, anyplace, you could find me singing.

### DO YOU WRITE YOUR SONGS?

Yes. I have been writing since I was a little girl, but started taking it seriously when I was 12 years old. I have always said that my songs are like my diary, and the music is how my feelings sound. I have a self-titled album that was released in 2013—all 10 songs are original.

### WHAT COUNTRY ARTIST WOULD YOU LOVE TO DUET WITH?

Miranda Lambert. The song would be a kickin', girl-power song!

### WHAT'S THE MOST EMBARRASSING THING YOU'VE DONE ONSTAGE?

I accidentally swallowed and choked on my gum. After I got it down, I was laughing as the music kept playing and had no shame in letting everyone know I had choked on my gum. Everyone got a kick out of it.

**TWITTER:** @OneHannahRose



# BOCEPHUS IS BACK

**HANK WILLIAMS JR.**  
RECRUITS A FEW ROWDY  
FRIENDS FOR HIS  
NEW ALBUM.

STORY BY SARAH SKATES





**"I MIGHT BE ONE** of the luckiest people on the planet," says Hank Williams Jr., puffing a cigar and peering through his trademark sunglasses as he recalls a recent concert in rapid-fire fashion. "Sunday afternoon in Syracuse at the New York State Fair—12,000 people, \$50,000 in merchandise. That's where I'm coming from. Kids holding up signs that say 'You are our Family Tradition.' There's no award as good as that one. That's the biggest award of all."

The legendary artist is prepping the release of his first new album in three years. Though he may have taken a break from recording, he never stopped performing for his audiences on the road, where he tested new songs like "Are You Ready for the Country," which quickly became a fan favorite. Some fans probably recognized the tune that was first recorded in the 1970s by both Neil Young—its original composer—and Waylon Jennings. For Hank Jr.'s rocking new version, he reworked it as a duet and recruited fellow star Eric Church.

"Eric is a friend of mine, so that's perfect," says Hank Jr. "We go out and look for Civil War relics together. He's not just a casual acquaintance. When he put his part on the song, [the re-

cord label] said, 'This has got to be the radio single. It's two real friends.'"

Eric and Hank Jr. kicked off the recent Country Music Association Awards broadcast with a performance of the song, and that wasn't the first time "Are You Ready for the Country" was used to open a set.

"I've got good memories of that song," says Hank Jr. "Waylon would open the show with that song. I was there and I've seen many thousand people get excited—*bam!*—right off the bat. Then he would close with one called 'Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way?' with me standing there with him."

Like his famous father, Hank Jr. does things his own way, especially in the recording studio. "I'm not one of these people that goes in and sits and sings," he continues. "I play every instrument out there. And the musicians in the studio know that, and we're having fun. We have a really good vibe from the time we get together. All these people called wanting to sing on here. The buzz is getting out that this session is something else."

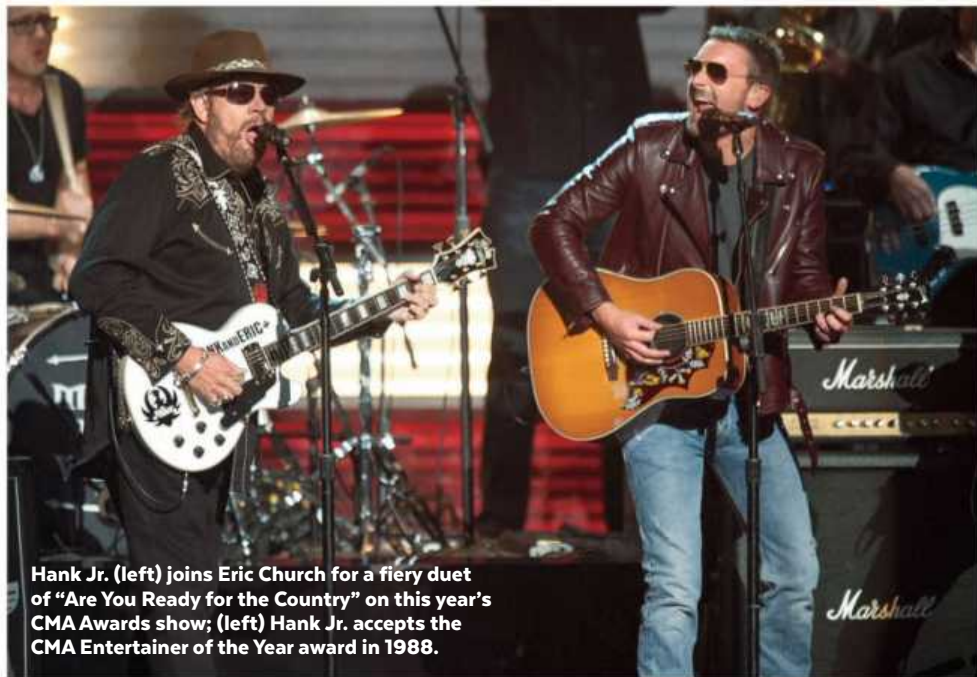
In addition to Eric, lucky guests on the project include Brantley Gilbert, Justin Moore and Brad Paisley, who teamed up for a remake of Hank Jr.'s

megahit "Born to Boogie." The opportunity was no doubt a career highlight for Justin, who references Hank Jr. in his own music.

"The best thing about this album is that problem of which song is the best," says Hank Jr. "That's a great problem to have. And I've had it in the past. 'Dress Like an Icon' is a hoot. It is about something that is fresh and different and funny. It is damn strong." Among his other favorites on the upcoming project are the Mel Tillis classic "Mental Revenge" and his self-penned "Just Call Me Hank," one of several songs he authored for the new album.

"Luckily I inherited from my iconic father the knack of taking about five or seven minutes to write a song," he says. "[My new song] 'It's About Time' is kind of funny—it's basically talking about the music business from about 1972 to today. The producer said, 'Wow, that is a smash. Where did *that* come from?'" The star pauses and motions to his hand, adorned with rings. "I said, 'You see that hand? *That's* where it came from.'"

That's the hand once held by his legendary father. And it is the hand that has been creating music since his first performance in 1957. It's



Hank Jr. (left) joins Eric Church for a fiery duet of "Are You Ready for the Country" on this year's CMA Awards show; (right) Hank Jr. accepts the CMA Entertainer of the Year award in 1988.



# A FATHER'S SON

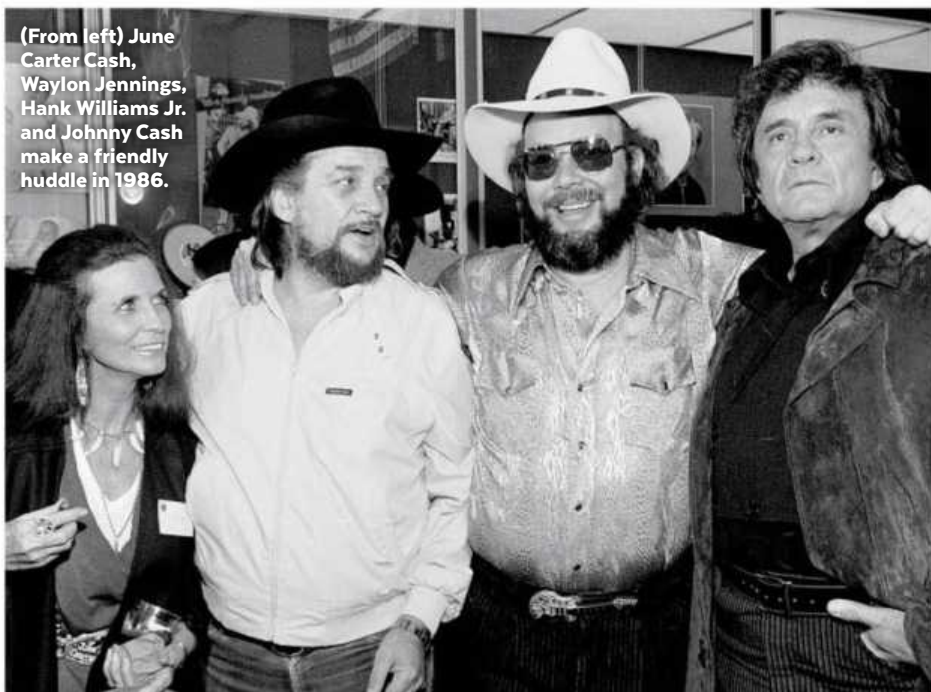
"My father is 29, he passes away. I'm just a little over 3 years old, so my mom, Audrey Williams, takes it from there. I remind my children that Audrey Williams did way more shows than Hank Williams ever did, because of the length of her life. She was out there busting it to raise Lycrecia and Hank Jr.

"So here I was, this little guy growing up with bus tours and people with cameras in our yard when I was going to school. Pretty soon you've got Fats Domino, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Ray Charles over all the time. When you really think about it, though, there's one real good reason: they all had No. 1s by recording a Hank Sr. song. That's why they were there. Fats Domino did 'Jambalaya.' Jerry Lee Lewis did 'You Win Again.' You've got to go back and do your homework. Every one of those cats had a No. 1. And as they are patting Hank Jr. on the head, they are saying, 'While you're here, let me show you [how to play] something.'

"You think that didn't have a lasting effect on Bocephus? Oh yeah, it did. I better know how to play something with those kind of teachers. People don't realize that when Daddy passed away, everybody was recording his songs—Tony Bennett, Dinah Shore, Perry Como, Ray Charles. What a legacy Hank Williams left. He is the *real* rockabilly king. Period."



(From left) June Carter Cash, Waylon Jennings, Hank Williams Jr. and Johnny Cash make a friendly huddle in 1986.



**"KIDS [ARE] HOLDING UP SIGNS THAT SAY 'YOU ARE OUR FAMILY TRADITION.' THERE'S NO AWARD AS GOOD AS THAT ONE. THAT'S THE BIGGEST AWARD OF ALL."**

## HANK WILLIAMS JR. CONTINUED

also the hand that lost its grip on the side of a mountain four decades ago, at a time when the young singer didn't have a grip on much of anything in life. The fall didn't kill him—it became a career turning point.

"I got these sunglasses from [falling] 525 feet down the Montana-Idaho border in 1975," he recalls. "[The doctors] said, 'You're not even supposed to be alive. You've been left here to do something. I don't know if you are supposed to count mountain trout or write songs, but you've been left here to do something.'"

He did something, all right. A string of successes followed, with such hits as "Born to Boogie," "A Country Boy Can Survive," "All My Rowdy Friends Are Coming Over Tonight" and the obvious sequel, "All My Rowdy Friends (Have Settled Down)." Hank Jr. has netted two CMA Entertainer of the Year awards and sold more 70 million albums worldwide.

Today, he has a firm grip on life

and his career—and oftentimes a hunting rifle. "I love taking young folks out there to show them their first black bear, like I did about four days ago," he continues. "My son-in-law killed a monster in Idaho. The two biggest bears killed in that camp was yours truly's and my son-in-law's. [The hunting guide] said, 'Man, you guys are for real, aren't you?' I said, 'Yeah, as a matter of fact we *are* for real. We don't play golf and tennis. We do *this*.' I've got land out the kazoo in Tennessee, Alabama, Montana. Taking your kids or somebody else's kids out there—there's nothing better than that."

Nothing better—except maybe the fans. "These 20-somethings are singing every word to every song," he continues. "And ages 30, 40, 50, 60, all the way up. When those young folks show up with their camo cap or ask me to sign their turkey call, that's pretty special to Mr. Bocephus. Believe me." **NCW**

# GLEAMING WITH THE COLOR, MYSTERY & ROMANCE OF SEDONA

The Native American people have always found spirituality and sacred symbolism within the beauty of nature. Their high regard for turquoise comes from a legend that describes the precious stone as a piece of sky that fell from the heavens. And because the eagle flies closer to the heavens than any other bird, it is seen as a wise and powerful Great Spirit.

Today, we've taken these two sacred symbols and combined them with the rich colors of the Southwest in a Native American-inspired jewelry fashion exclusive—the "Sedona Sky" Turquoise Ring.

## *Inspired by Native American Culture and the Beauty of Sedona*

This stylish and beautiful ring is hand-crafted of solid sterling silver and features a large genuine turquoise cabochon framed in a Native American-style beaded setting. The sides of the ring are beautifully textured to resemble an eagle feather. The rich colors of the Sedona sky and landscape are represented on the center band in delicately crafted, hand-enameled red, black and turquoise colored accents.

## *Exquisite Craftsmanship... Exceptional Value*

Available in women's whole and half sizes from 5-12, this beautiful ring is a remarkable value at \$99, payable in 4 easy installments of \$24.75\*. To reserve yours, backed by our unconditional 120-day guarantee, send no money now; just mail the Reservation Application today! But hurry, this is a limited-time offer!

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## "SEDONA SKY" TURQUOISE RING

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CABOCHON



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hand-crafted

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Band is delicately  
crafted with red, black  
and turquoise colored  
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To assure a proper fit, a ring sizer will be sent to you after your reservation has been accepted.

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Mrs. Mr. Ms.

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address

City

State

Zip

E-Mail (Optional)

\*Plus \$9.98 shipping and service. Please allow 4-6 weeks after initial payment for shipment of your jewelry. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

01-15217-002-E08102



# ALWAYS WRITE, NEVER WRONG

The CMA Awards show may be Country Music's Biggest Night, but the party was well underway before the Nov. 4 showcase at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena. During the three days prior to the Awards show, music rights organizations BMI, ASCAP and SESAC rolled out their red carpets to honor their own singer/songwriters in style. The music flowed . . . and so did the drinks, dinners and fun, and *Nash Country Weekly* was along for the ride. Check out all of the action—from the red carpet to the performances to the honorees—in our exclusive recap.



(Above from left) Ross Copperman, Brett Eldredge, Mac Davis and Heather Morgan are all smiles. Mac was honored as the 2015 BMI Icon, while songwriters Ross, Brett and Heather netted the Song of the Year award for Brett's "Beat of the Music."

Mac Davis



# BMI COUNTRY AWARDS

On Wednesday, Nov. 3, Broadcast Music Inc. presented the 2015 BMI Country Awards, honoring the prolific songwriting career of BMI Icon Mac Davis, as well as the BMI Country Songwriter, Song and Publisher of the Year.

A host of artists paid tribute to Mac by performing his hits, including Mac McAnally ("Texas in My Rearview Mirror"), Luke Bryan ("A Little Less Conversation") and Little Big Town ("In the Ghetto").

In addition, Rodney Clawson was named Songwriter of the Year, with credits that include, among others, Kenny Chesney's "American Kids" and Florida Georgia Line's "Dirt." Brett Eldredge's "Beat of the Music"—written by Brett, Ross Copperman and Heather Morgan—earned Song of the Year, while Sony/ATV Music Publishing Nashville took home the Publisher of the Year accolade.



(Above) Little Big Town was on hand to perform "In the Ghetto," a song written by Mac Davis that Elvis Presley took to No. 3 in 1969; (below left) Thomas Rhett picked up a medallion for his *Billboard* No. 1 "Make Me Wanna"; (below right) Cole Swindell (left) and Luke Bryan show off their hardware for "This Is How We Roll."



Mac McAnally





# ASCAP AWARDS

On Monday, Nov. 2, performing rights organization ASCAP recognized the writers and publishers of 46 of country music's most-performed songs between April 2014 and March 2015. It was a big night for singer/songwriter Sam Hunt, who took home the win in the Songwriter-Artist of the Year category and Song of the Year for "Leave the Night On," which Sam co-wrote with hit writer Josh Osborne. Ashley Gorley won the Songwriter of the Year trophy for the second year after penning six of the top hits of the year, including Luke Bryan's "I See You" and "Play It Again" and Jason Aldean's "Just Gettin' Started." Warner/Chappell Music was named Publisher of the Year.

In one of the most exciting moments of the evening, Justin Timberlake introduced a trio of performances from Lady Antebellum, Reba McEntire and Allie Brooks, daughter of Garth Brooks, honoring Trisha Yearwood before former President Jimmy Carter presented her with ASCAP's Voice of Music Award.

The evening was also dotted with additional performances by the writers and guest artists including Luke Bryan, Sam Hunt, Cole Swindell, Rhett Akins and Old Dominion.



(Above) Justin Timberlake (right) snaps a pic with Trisha Yearwood and Garth Brooks after helping present Trisha with the ASCAP Voice of Music Award; (above right) ASCAP president Paul Williams (right) gets some executive advice from former U.S. President Jimmy Carter; (right) Sam Hunt performs Song of the Year "Leave the Night On"; (below) Songwriter of the Year Ashley Gorley (left) and Luke Bryan perform "Play It Again."







Michael Ray  
(center)



Randy  
Houser



Lee Brice

## SESAC AWARDS

The Nashville Music Awards hosted by SESAC helped officially kick off CMA Awards week in Nashville on Sunday, Nov. 1, with a celebration at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Rising star Michael Ray got the party started with a rocking version of his hit "Kiss You in the Morning."


The evening featured a special presentation to songwriter Richard Leigh, who received the SESAC Songwriter Legacy Award for his contributions to the country genre. Reba McEntire and Crystal Gayle saluted Richard, with Reba performing "The Greatest Man I Never Knew." Crystal followed with her 1977 crossover smash, "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue."

Cary Barlowe was named SESAC Songwriter of the Year for his chart-topping hits "Sun Daze" by Florida Georgia Line and "Where It's At (Yep, Yep)" by Dustin Lynch.



(Above left) Cary Barlowe took home the Songwriter of the Year honor for co-writing Florida Georgia Line's "Sun Daze" and Dustin Lynch's "Where It's At (Yep, Yep)"; (above right) Hillary Scott of Lady Antebellum was honored for her co-writes on "Freestyle," "Bartender" and "Long Stretch of Love"; (right) Richard Leigh was named the 2015 SESAC Songwriter Legacy Award winner for penning such hits as "I'll Get Over You" and "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue."





# The Twelve Days of Christmas

*We've got a dozen reasons that will keep you jolly this holiday season.*

Hopefully, you're on the Nice List this year. If that's the case, treat yourself to one—or more—of the events listed in our countrified homage to the song “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” Just like the old English Christmas carol that you probably learned in grade school, our Twelve Days of Christmas has plenty of reasons to be jolly this holiday season, including Vince, Reba, Kenny and more.

BY JIM CASEY, BOB PAXMAN, TAMMY RAGUSA

## First Day of Christmas

*Amy Grant & Vince Gill:  
Christmas at the Ryman*

Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 22, 23  
Nashville

Vince Gill and wife Amy Grant make endearing and charming hosts during their annual Christmas at the Ryman concerts—oh, did we mention they also have two of the sweetest voices in music of any genre? During their two-hour program, the Grammy-winning husband-and-wife team present cherished standards as well as newer seasonal fare, performing with sincerity while never becoming overly sugary in their banter with the audience. And no matter how many times you've seen one of their holiday shows at the Ryman, no two are the same. Vince and Amy make a new set list for every show, and you never know what musical A-lister is going to join them onstage for a guest performance. And, as Vince tells it, you never know what he's going to wear.

“Amy and I started doing Christmas shows together 22 years ago,” says Vince. “It's become a tradition for us in Nashville, and Amy loves it—she loves to get dressed up, but I'm not crazy about dressing up. It feels abnormal to me to play in dress clothes. Last year for fun, I wore a [NHL Nashville] Predators jersey to one of the shows because they had a game the same night as we had a concert and I pretended to be late. I came out and said, ‘Oh, I can't believe this, I'm such an idiot, I went to the game and forgot we had a show tonight.’ Everybody had a good laugh, and after the show, Amy said to me, ‘That's the most fun I've ever seen you have at a Christmas show in my whole life. From now on, you can wear whatever you want.’ So I'm really excited for the shows this year.”





## Second Day of Christmas

*Reba, Brooks & Dunn: Together in Vegas*

Dec. 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12: Las Vegas

Christmastime in Vegas? Yes, please, especially when there's an opportunity to catch two superstar acts on one bill. Reba, Brooks & Dunn: Together in Vegas pairs old friends Reba McEntire and Brooks & Dunn in a spectacular show from the Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, performing their individual hits and also taking the stage together. Show dates are: Dec. 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12. And hey, while you're in Vegas, you can work in a little Christmas shopping at the city's unbelievable array of stores. Sounds like a great two-for-one.





## Third Day of Christmas

*Kenny Rogers: Christmas & Hits Tour*

Now-Dec. 23

Christmas came early for Kenny Rogers' fans as "The Gambler" kicked off his annual Christmas tour on Nov. 11, with more than 25 dates that run through Dec. 23. Kenny has been delighting concertgoers with his annual tour since 1981, often singing more than 30 songs, including Christmas classics like "Winter Wonderland" and "White Christmas" as well as his crowd-pleasing standards "Lady" and "Islands in the Stream." As an additional stocking stuffer, Kenny recently released his first holiday album in more than 15 years, the aptly titled *Once Again It's Christmas*, which includes new songs and popular standards as well as duets with Jennifer Nettles, Alison Krauss and Home Free. The Time Jumpers are also featured on a special Cracker Barrel edition of the album.



## Fourth Day of Christmas

*The Oak Ridge Boys: Christmas Night Out Tour*

Now-Dec. 23

If you are a fan of the Oak Ridge Boys, you know the newly inducted Country Music Hall of Fame members have had a banner year in 2015, and they are capping their magical year with their 26th annual Christmas Night Out Tour. The almost two-hour holiday show, which runs through Dec. 23, features a mixture of traditional and contemporary songs—including religious, romantic and fun holiday tunes drawn from the Oaks' six Christmas albums. If you're nice, Santa will even make a special appearance during the show. Heck, you can be naughty and he will still come.

## Fifth Day of Christmas

*CMA Country Christmas*

Dec 3, 9 p.m. ET

Deck the halls with some of the most heavenly voices in country and contemporary Christian music, along with a killer a capella group and a big band when ABC airs the *CMA Country Christmas* special on Dec. 3 at 9 p.m. ET. Hosted again by our own sugar plum fairy, Jennifer Nettles, *Country Christmas* has become a highly anticipated annual holiday event for country music fans, who have the pleasure of hearing their favorite stars sing their favorite festive tunes. Kelsea Ballerini, Martina McBride, David Nail, Darius Rucker and Michael W. Smith are among the stars celebrating the season.





## Sixth Day of Christmas

### *Wrangler National Finals Rodeo*

Dec. 3-12: Las Vegas

It's not your traditional holiday celebration, but the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo is certainly a ton of fun as the sport's best cowboys and cowgirls compete in the "Super Bowl" of rodeo. And besides buckin', bustin', ridin' and ropin', there's plenty of pickin' and singin', too. Sam Hunt, Little Big Town, Scotty McCreery, Eli Young Band, Alabama, Merle Haggard, Terri Clark, Gary Allan, Joe Nichols, Craig Morgan, Chris Janson, Montgomery Gentry and The Cadillac Three are among the country acts performing at various NFR venues around the strip. NFR kicks off Dec. 3 and be sure to swing into "Cowboy Christmas" in the convention center to pick up a new ornament for your tree.



## Seventh Day of Christmas

### *Deck the Hall: Country Music Hall of Fame*

Dec. 2, 4, 9, 16, 23: Nashville

If you're heading to Nashville this holiday season, be sure to check out the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum for a holiday concert in their stunning venue that is completely decked out for Christmas. Tanya Tucker hosted the first night of music on Nov. 27, after first lighting the Hall of Fame tree. Ricky Skaggs and The Whites (Dec. 2), Brenda Lee (Dec. 9), Lonestar (Dec. 16) and The Oak Ridge Boys (Dec. 23) are also set to serenade fans with holiday tunes. WSM's Bill Cody will broadcast live from the Hall on Dec. 4 as T. Graham Brown and Exile perform.



## Eighth Day of Christmas

### *Gaylord Opryland: A Country Christmas*

Now-Jan. 2: Nashville

The magic of the season comes to the Gaylord Opryland Resort hotel in Nashville with live shows, 2 million (yes, *million*) lights and attractions for the whole family. You'll definitely want to take a free self-guided tour of the beautifully decorated Christmas trees on the resort. Several trees have been decorated by country stars and other celebrities, and they're available to the highest online bidder to benefit various charities once the display is taken down. After you take in the stunning Opryland grounds, make plans for some evening entertainment at the Larry Gatlin & The Gatlin Brothers Christmas Dinner Show, which runs through Dec. 26. Other attractions include ICE! Featuring The Nutcracker, a walk-through indoor spectacle reliving scenes from the classic ballet, and *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical*.





# It's Beginning to Sound a Lot Like Christmas

Part of the tradition of Christmas is pulling out those holiday albums that only get played once a year. We've assembled our 12 favorites, which are perfect soundtracks for trimming the tree, sipping on hot chocolate or cuddling in front of the fire.



**Martina McBride**  
*White Christmas*



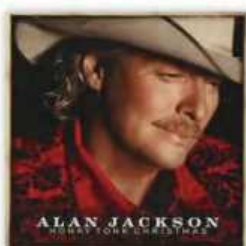
**Vince Gill**  
*Let There Be Peace on Earth*



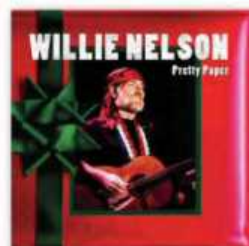
**Lee Ann Womack**  
*The Season for Romance*



**George Strait**  
*Merry Christmas Strait to You*



**Alan Jackson**  
*Honky Tonk Christmas*



**Willie Nelson**  
*Pretty Paper*



**Kenny Rogers**  
*The Gift*



**Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers**  
*Once Upon a Christmas*



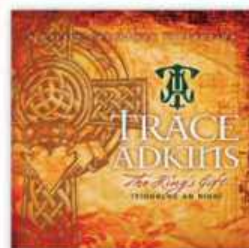
**Loretta Lynn**  
*The Best of Loretta Lynn: The Christmas Collection*



**Garth Brooks**  
*Beyond the Season*



**Trisha Yearwood**  
*The Sweetest Gift*



**Trace Adkins**  
*The King's Gift*



## Ninth Day of Christmas

*Keith Urban Calendar*  
Available Soon

Who wouldn't love 12 months of Keith Urban? And no one loves Keith more than the children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis who benefit from the sales of his annual calendar. Since 2003, Keith's fans have been snapping concert photos and submitting their best pics to [keithurbanfans.com](http://keithurbanfans.com). Keith and crew pick the best ones and assemble them into a calendar that's sold on the website. Net proceeds benefit St. Jude in honor of the Fans Care for St. Jude Kids program, of which Keith is an ardent supporter. Kick off 2016 with Keith—and keep him around all year—while helping a worthy cause in the process.



## Tenth Day of Christmas

*Dolly Parton's Coat of Many Colors*

Dec. 10, 9 p.m. ET

Here's the ideal made-for-TV movie that captures the true meaning of the holiday season. *Dolly Parton's Coat of Many Colors*, based on Dolly's autobiographical hit song, airs on NBC Dec. 10 at 9 p.m. ET. Set in the Great Smoky Mountains of East Tennessee, where Dolly was raised, the movie centers around several incidents from Dolly's life as a young child. Jennifer Nettles plays Dolly's mother, with Rick Schroder taking the role of Dolly's dad. Young actress Alyvia Alyn Lind will portray the 9-year-old Dolly. Mark this one on your viewing calendar.



## Eleventh Day of Christmas

*Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve With Ryan Seacrest 2016*

Dec. 31, 8 p.m. ET

For many stay-at-home partiers, it's just not New Year's Eve without the annual Dick Clark TV special. Ryan Seacrest has carried on the tradition of hosting the show from New York's Times Square since Dick's passing. The celebration airs Dec. 31 on ABC, beginning at 8 p.m. ET. Carrie Underwood will headline the festivities with other acts to be announced soon. Plus, actress/comedian Jenny McCarthy reports live from Times Square while pop star Fergie hosts the *Billboard* Hollywood Party on the West Coast. Make sure you stay up to watch the famous ball drop that officially signals the New Year.

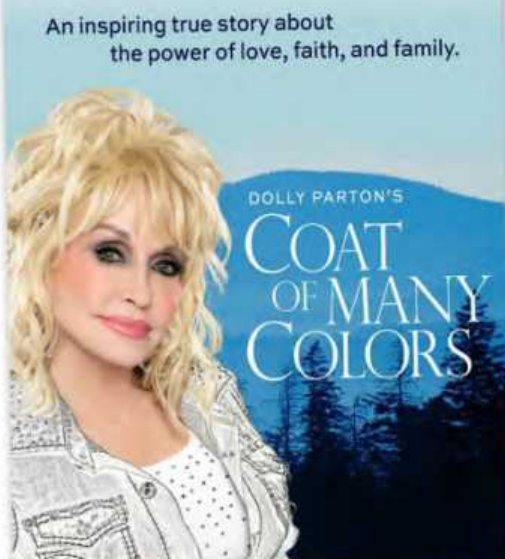


## Twelfth Day of Christmas

*Steamboat MusicFest*

Jan. 4-9: Steamboat, Colo.

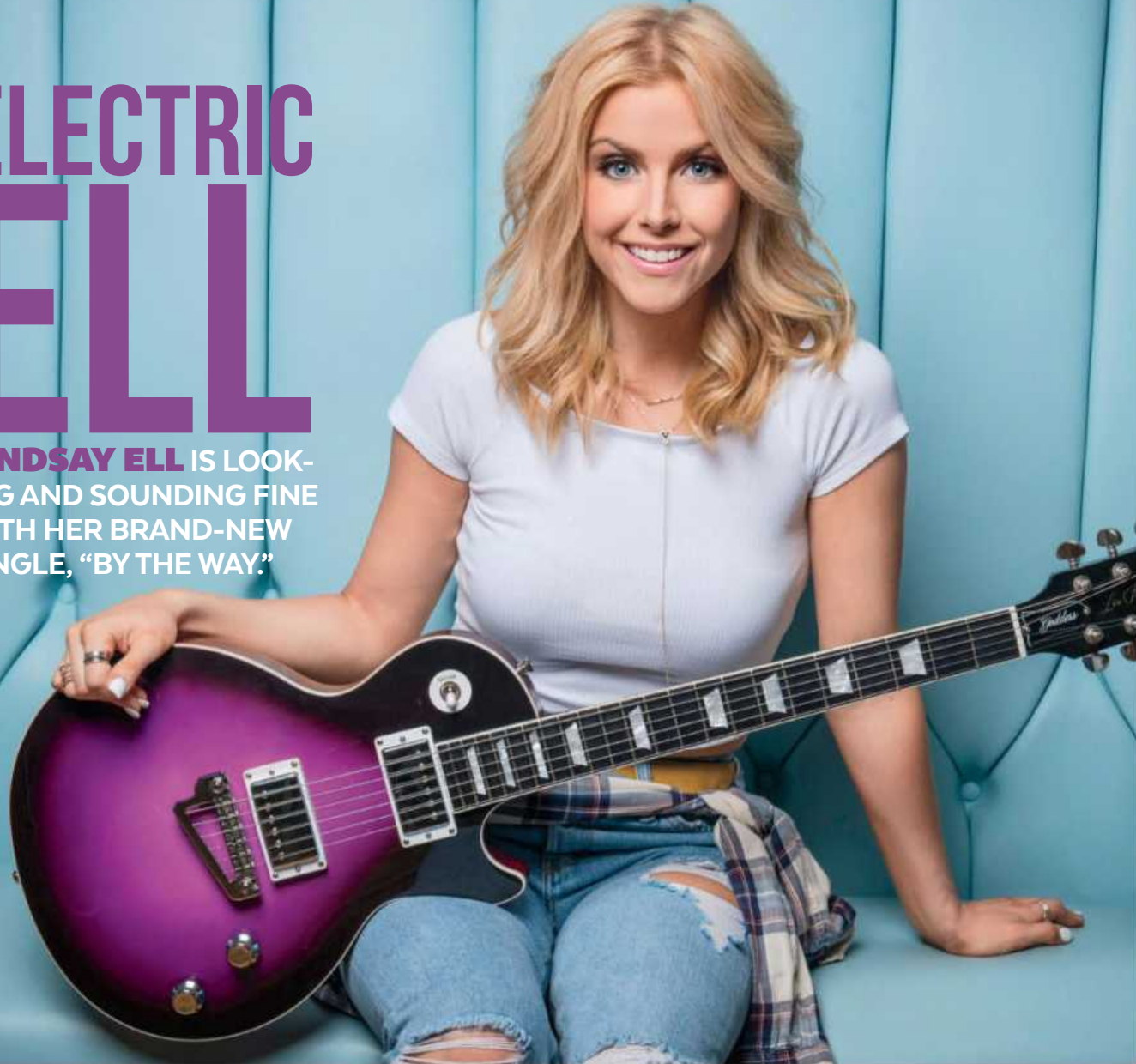
Six days, 40 bands, a world-class ski resort—does it really get any better than the Steamboat MusicFest? The answer is no. The festival draws thousands of musically minded, ski-loving folks to the snow-swept peaks of Colorado each January. This year's lineup includes a who's who from the roots music world and the Texas Country scene, including Wade Bowen, Turnpike Troubadours, Reckless Kelly, Jason Boland, Randy Rogers Band, Lee Ann Womack, Bruce Robison, Cody Canada and more. Make sure to pack a hat, because it gets cold on the mountain, but you'll also need a bathing suit for all the late-night hot-tubbing. **NCW**





# ELECTRIC ELL

**LINDSAY ELL** IS LOOKING AND SOUNDING FINE WITH HER BRAND-NEW SINGLE, "BY THE WAY."



**S**he's so cute and petite you could hang Lindsay Ell from a charm bracelet, but put a guitar in her hands and she gets larger than life.

Lindsay is a pickin' powerhouse. With her 2013 debut single, "Trippin' on Us," she showed off her serious guitar chops behind a sweet and energetic vocal. Since then, Lindsay has been playing and writing and, with the release of her new single, "By the Way," has further dialed into her own sound.

Looking incredibly fetching in a tunic and shorts on an unseasonably warm fall day, Lindsay is a ball of energy, which is surprising since, just a handful of days prior,

she spent 24 hours playing guitar and singing during her "Busking on Broadway" acoustic concert to raise money for Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

At the mention of her busking fundraiser, her eyes light up. "When we first started talking about what we were going to do, I had never heard of a 24-hour concert before," Lindsay says. "And I was just crazy enough to say, 'That sounds like a great idea!' It ended up being an amazing day. I didn't know what playing for 24 hours straight would be like. I had played for six to eight hours in the studio, but I didn't know how my hands were going to play for 24 hours or how I was going to sing for 24

hours, but we raised a whole bunch of money for Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, which was incredible. So many people came out—fans came out to Broadway and encouraged us on, they brought us coffee and donuts and threw money into the guitar case because we were donating all of our tips to the kids. All in all, it was a really positive day."

Lindsay is on a roll. The petite blonde with the big smile started her musical career at age 6 on piano, but she picked up a guitar at age 8 and has yet to put it down. The Canada native showed such an innate talent for the instrument that at 15 she was mentored by Guess Who and Bachman-Turner Overdrive guitarist

Lindsay by Jason Myers/EBR Music Group; event photos by Carissa Riccardi



# LINDSAY'S FAST FACTS

**AGE:**  
26

**HOMETOWN:**  
CALGARY, ALBERTA

**TOURED WITH:**  
KEITH URBAN  
LUKE BRYAN

THE BAND PERRY

**NEW SINGLE:**  
"BY THE WAY"

**COMING UP:**  
FROM JANUARY THROUGH APRIL, JENNIFER NETTLES WILL HEADLINE THE 2016 NEXT WOMEN OF COUNTRY TOUR WITH BRANDY CLARK AND SPECIAL GUESTS LINDSAY ELL AND TARA THOMPSON.



(Above) Lindsay draws a crowd as she busks on Broadway for Vanderbilt Children's Hospital; (below) Lindsay even gets a little help from pal Ashley Gearing (left), who stopped by and played a few tunes, too.



Randy Bachman and, a couple of years later, embarked on a tour with blues guitarist Buddy Guy.

Lindsay seemed destined to make music for a living, but now, she admits, she seems to be more attuned to the kind of music she wants to make.

Lindsay all but giggles in agreement and reveals, "We have been working on a bunch of new music and I'm so excited because it feels like 'By the Way' sort of marks a new chapter for me as an artist." Her smile grows as she continues, "I feel like I've clicked into what I want to sound like and what I want to say to an audience and where I want to go. So, we'll be releasing an EP shortly in the new year with a

record to follow, for sure."

"By the Way" is a fun romp through relationships from the perspective of a young lady who is trying to figure it all out. Lindsay explains, "I know going through relationships, you learn so much from people, what you want and what you don't want, and you learn so much about yourself, and this is a song that definitely says, 'OK, I learned that and I don't want that, now I'm going to go out and find what I do want.'"

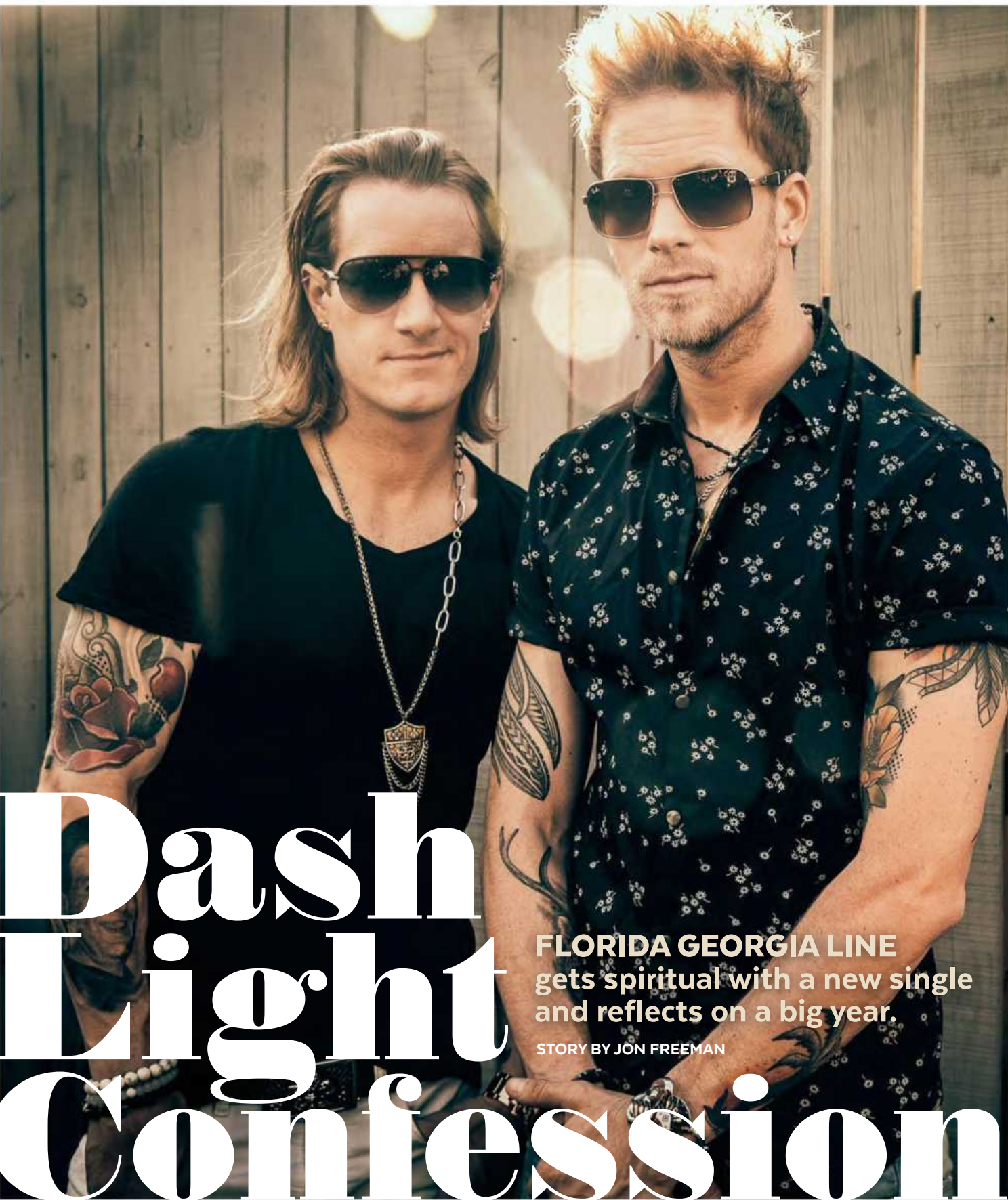
Ironically, Lindsay penned the tune with two of the most successful *male* songwriters in country music—Luke Laird and Barry Dean, who co-wrote hits like "Pontoon" with Natalie Hemby and "Diamond Rings

and Old Bar Stools" with Jonathan Singleton. "I remember walking into the room that day and I just wanted to write a female-empowering song," Lindsay recalls. "I remember the females who inspired me when I was a little girl—Shania Twain and Sheryl Crow and even Bonnie Raitt—and they had such strong songs. They really had a voice for females. So, I hope 'By the Way' can be that and say, 'It's going to be OK. Sometimes a girl has to stand up for what she believes in, but it's going to be OK.'"

You bet it is, because sometimes a girl like Lindsay sits down and picks a mean guitar . . . and, in the process, melts a few faces and hearts.

**TAMMY RAGUSA**





# Dash Light Confession

**FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE**  
gets spiritual with a new single  
and reflects on a big year.

STORY BY JON FREEMAN



**I**n a bustling Music City Center hallway, Brian Kelley and Tyler Hubbard look a little like they could use a nap. They just wrapped up a series of wham-bam radio interviews ahead of the CMA Awards and have paused—with entourage looking on and passers-by gawking—to chat with *Nash Country Weekly* about their year.

“It’s really cool that the industry is acknowledging us—I guess it means we’re doing something good,” says Brian, referencing FGL’s Vocal Duo of the Year nomination. “It’s current, it’s fresh. It’s humbling. Man, it means a lot to us. Much love and respect.”

A few months earlier, Brian told members of the press that he and Tyler would be finished releasing singles from their sophomore album, *Anything Goes*, after the title track. From there, they would be focused on promoting music from their third album.

To date, the album has spawned four consecutive No. 1s—“Dirt,” “Sun Daze,” “Sippin’ on Fire” and the title track—giving the guys an impressive assortment of hits to play on their headlining *Anything Goes* Tour that ran through 10 months of 2015. Perhaps buoyed by that momentum, FGL decided to return to the well once more and put out *Anything Goes*’ moody “Confession” as its fifth single. The song made its live debut on the 49th annual CMA Awards show, falling in the undesirable slot immediately after Chris Stapleton’s heralded performance with Justin Timberlake. “Yikes,” they tweeted moments before the spotlight was on them.

While it may have been overshadowed in the hysteria of the CMA Awards (where FGL was

named Vocal Duo of the Year), “Confession” actually marks a return of sorts to where *Anything Goes* began. Like that album’s lead single, “Dirt,” “Confession” attempts to find some greater meaning and purpose beneath the stock rural signifiers with which they’ve become associated.

“[It] bookends the album—with ‘Dirt’—really well,” says Brian. “I think it closes the *Anything Goes* chapter, if you will. If you look at the singles off this album, it tells a story. It is a hundred percent Tyler and I—these are our songs, our lives and our fans’ lives. That’s why we’re connecting so deep.”

In “Confession,” a solitary figure takes a late-night drive through the country in an attempt to clear his brain. He scans the radio for the right song, stares into the distance and takes stock of his life. *That guy in the windshield looking back looks just like me but there’s a crack in the reflection*, goes one line in the chorus. It’s a far cry from the Jack-and-Coke-sipping boys of summer in “Sun Daze.”

“In my mind it’s more of [getting] perspective on your own life,” explains Tyler. “Being transparent and looking in the mirror and knowing where you fall short of being who you want to be and trying to work on that.”

“I think it’s a coming-of-age song, too,” chimes in Brian. “We’re men, you know, a hundred percent. When we jumped on the scene, we were boys. We’ve done a lot of growing up. We’re still working hard. We’re still having a good time. We’re still enjoying it. But this song is on a deeper level and I think the world needs to hear this from us.”

The “deeper level” he mentions may be due to the song’s spiritual tone. Though “Confession”



Brian Kelley (left) and Tyler Hubbard perform “Confession” on this year’s CMA Awards show.

# His Store in the Making

Florida Georgia Line made headlines

for doing something outside music in early October. Tyler and Brian, along with their respective spouses Hayley and Brittney, purchased two properties in Nashville's Hillsboro Village with plans for a retail development ready for business in summer 2016.

"We're just creating a little camp out there in Hillsboro Village that's kind of different than anything in Nashville," says Tyler. "Just something where we can be creative and invite our



(From left) Brittney, Brian, Tyler and Hayley walk the red carpet at the CMA Awards in November.

friends to come hang out."

While no official opening date has been announced, the property will serve multiple purposes. Tyler and Brian's publishing company, Tree Vibez Music, will be run out

of these new digs, but walk-in customers will be able to enjoy a cup of coffee and browse garments from Tribe Kelley Trading Post—Brian and Brittney's fashion line.

"We can't wait to go there and work and have meetings and create," adds Brian. "Our writers and producers are going to be there as well. It's a great vibe there. There's a teepee already out on the corner in Hillsboro Village right now, already set up for it."

## FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE CONT.

never actually mentions God, the act of prayer is directly referenced in the chorus, in conjunction with a swig of beer. Even the idea of confession—that is, an acknowledgment of wrongdoing—is a common practice in many different religions. But there's no interaction between trembling disciple and priest here, just a guy needing a little quiet time for his thoughts.

"We're believers and I also believe as well, that this song is a confession to yourself," says Tyler. "In our life personally, that involves prayer and connecting with God on that level as well. For even the nonbeliever, it's about being real with who you are."

The release of "Confession" as a single is also a strategic decision. To date, the guys have released nine singles and enjoyed eight No. 1s on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart. Only "This Is How We Roll" missed the top, though it was a Hot Country Songs No. 1 and an across-the-board smash by any measure. ("Didn't research well," shrugs Tyler, with Brian adding, "What is research? Come to an FGL show, that's all the research you need, baby!") Excepting "Dirt," much of FGL's output has been party-friendly fare that has earned them a considerable amount of criticism. "Confession," they figure, is the bridge to FGL 3.0.

"This song's really gonna open the

doors for what we've got coming, new-musicwise, in the future," hints Brian.

At the same media event where Brian said that FGL was finished releasing singles from *Anything Goes*, he also said the duo's new music would "change lives." Without offering too many details, he says the songs on the Joey Moi-produced album will be "deeper" and "real" but thematically encompass everything from love to partying to spiritual searching. A tour is expected to accompany the release and begin in May.

"The first [single is] a relationship song, I think it's gonna challenge . . ." says Brian, trailing off. "It's a big love song, you know?"

For now, fans will have to wait, and besides, FGL has plenty to do before then. Right after the CMA Awards, Tyler and Brian headed off to Mexico to play their second annual This Is How We Cruise, and they'll wrap up 2015 spending quality time with their wives and family. In early 2016, they'll head overseas to Australia for CMC Rocks and put the finishing touches on that album.

The interview ends abruptly, Tyler and Brian's responses growing shorter with each question. Finally, Tyler cuts it off with a polite handshake.

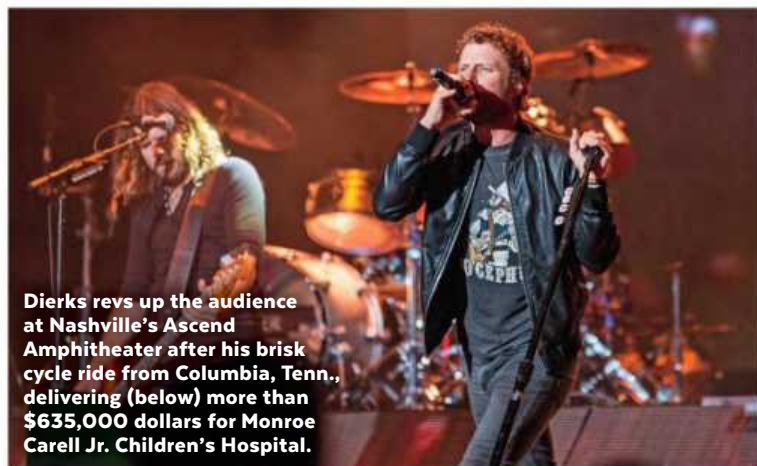
"I think we're about to go get something to eat," he says.

That must be that transparency thing kicking in. **NCW**



Florida Georgia Line collects another "Vocal Duo of the Year" trophy at this year's CMAs.





Dierks revs up the audience at Nashville's Ascend Amphitheater after his brisk cycle ride from Columbia, Tenn., delivering (below) more than \$635,000 dollars for Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital.



# DIERKS MILES & MUSIC

**THIS YEAR MARKS** A handful of 10th anniversaries for Dierks Bentley—his membership in the Grand Ole Opry and his marriage to wife Cassidy, just for starters.

On Nov. 1, Dierks celebrated one more with his 10th annual Miles and Music for Kids motorcycle ride and broke his previous record with a total of \$636,479 raised for Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. To date, the annual event—which concludes with an all-star concert—has raised close to \$4 million for the cause.

"The fact that we're still doing this after 10 years . . . when we first started off, we questioned whether we'd be able to do *one* year," said Dierks, who rode into town with thousands of bikers. "Then it became two, two became five, now it's 10. There's a lot of singing going on this week, lot of late nights, I really appreciate all these

guys showing up."

Joining Dierks for the sold-out concert portion of the evening at Nashville's new Ascend Amphitheater—the biggest venue to host the show yet—were Florida Georgia Line, Thomas Rhett, Cole Swindell, The Cadillac Three, Canaan Smith and Brooke Eden.

It was Thomas Rhett's first time to perform at Miles & Music, and though he's not big on biking himself, he was still excited to be part of it.

"[Dierks has] asked me to do it the past couple of years and I've always had shows to play so I couldn't be part of it," said Thomas Rhett. "But this year I was off, so I was really excited to be part of such a great thing. Knowing that it goes to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and all the money that's been raised over the last 10 years, it's truly phenomenal."

Cole, Thomas Rhett and FGL all used Dierks' band for their quick sets, warming up the crowd for Dierks, who mostly stuck to his high-energy songs like "Am I the Only One" and "5-1-5-0" for the rowdy crowd. Secure in the knowledge that he had broken previous fundraising records and sold out his biggest venue yet with the show, Dierks was bullish about the fundraiser's future.

"Bridgestone, next year!" joked Dierks of playing the gigantic Nashville venue that recently hosted the CMA Awards. "I'm gonna get the Bridgestone one way or another. It feels like [Miles and Music has] become its own little thing during CMA week. Fans that are in town might check this out."

Now, Dierks has a target to hit for his 15th anniversary.

**JON FREEMAN**







# WHITNEY ROSE

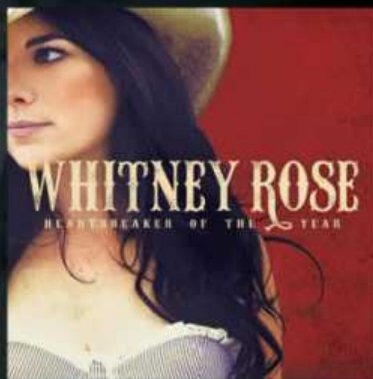
**SINGER WHITNEY ROSE HAS** an affinity for simple, classic things, like the dresses and garments she buys during her frequent thrift store shopping trips.

"We can call that an addiction," jokes the singer, calling from an East Coast tour stop. "I've already done it this morning."

Similarly, Whitney's album *Heartbreaker of the Year* takes simple, classic elements of popular music and repurposes them to be contemporary and anachronistic at the same time. With an upbringing in Canada's isolated maritime province Prince Edward Island, Whitney has experienced firsthand how being a little behind the times isn't necessarily a bad thing.

"There's something romantic about that," she says. "We still have one of the ferries operating that goes to Nova Scotia. But now we have the bridge that connects us to the world a little more."

Borrowing from early rock 'n' roll, country, girl-group pop and more, *Heartbreaker of the Year* is a stylish set of songs that expands upon Whitney's unique journey. Tracks like "My First Rodeo" and "Little Piece of You" bear a trace of Nancy Sinatra's coquettish personality and noir-ish soundscapes, while "The Last Party" has more in common with a string-laden Patsy Cline record and the title track conjures the smoky sex appeal of Peggy Lee's "Fever." Helping unify all these disparate influences as producer was another artist who has built a career out of recycling classic sounds across genre lines—The Mavericks' frontman, Raul Malo.



**FOR FANS OF:  
THE MAVERICKS  
PATSY CLINE  
NANCY SINATRA**

## **ESSENTIAL LISTENING:**

**"MY FIRST RODEO"**

**"AIN'T IT WISE"**

**"LITTLE PIECE OF YOU"**

**"THERE'S A TEAR  
IN MY BEER"**

**All songs from *Heartbreaker of the Year*  
For more information, visit  
[whitneyrosemusic.com](http://whitneyrosemusic.com)**

"I knew I was in really good hands," says Whitney, who met the band after opening for them and joining their tour. "I love all The Mavericks' records, [including] early. I love their present stuff. I think their records are fantastic. I was very trusting and [Raul] had so many great ideas and at the same time he was really respectful of my songs, or my 'babies,' as I like to call them. It was a really good mix of him giving input and kind of keeping the heart of the tunes that I wrote."

Raul's nouveau-Orbison vocals can be heard on many of the tracks, melding beautifully with Whitney's clear, vibrato-heavy voice as on the weepy ballad "Ain't It Wise."

"I have a soft spot for weepy country songs!" says Whitney, laughing. "I think my band is starting to get sick of them in travel, because they're stuck listening to basically whatever I want to listen to."

Additionally, Raul provides a crucial bit of singing on one of the album's two cover songs: The Ronettes' classic "Be My Baby." Rather than mimic the original song's iconic opening drumbeat, Whitney's version foregrounds its Latin underpinnings and swaps lines with Raul, who also provides the answering "be my baby" lines in the chorus. Later, at the album's conclusion, Whitney gives a woozy rendition of Hank Williams' "There's a Tear in My Beer" that has a dreamy, Hawaiian quality to it. Though Hank and The Ronettes were originally pretty dissimilar artists, Whitney still sees some important connective tissue between their musical output.

"It's usually three, four chords, and that's all you need," she says. "A nice melody, and an idea or a feeling that you want to get across. It's so simple. I've always been a huge supporter of simplicity. And not just in music—in everything. In life, I like to keep things simple and I think that's why I'm drawn to both of those styles of music. And I love when they're married."

With *Heartbreaker of the Year*, Whitney has created one happy union of the classics.

**JON FREEMAN**

# LIFE CHANGING

When you write songs as often as Chris Janson, Danny Myrick and LOCASH's Chris Lucas and Preston Brust, sometimes thinking of fresh ideas can be a struggle. But it's always guaranteed when those four get together that there will be plenty of laughs, a whole lot of energy and a good time. "There's a lot of A.D.D. in that room," jokes LOCASH's Chris Lucas. "It's a fun time because we all kind of play off each other, and it always seems to work."

The foursome had a unanimous vision during a co-write last year, and that was to score a cut on the new Garth Brooks comeback album. After landing on a particular melody, they decided to list all the things they appreciate in life, from small towns and camo hats to family values and a little white church. They knew if the vibe of the song was making them feel something inside, surely it would click with music fans everywhere.

"It was something America needed," says Chris. "There is so much to be negative about right now, but we wanted to find the little things that do make it nice and make us remember that we do love this life."

"Each one of us has a few little things in there that we all love so much," Preston adds. "There was just a lot of positivity in the room that day. It's awesome that we were able to capture that moment in a song."

However, after their new anthem "I Love This Life" was finished, it never quite made its way to Garth because another artist quickly snatched it up and put it on hold—that is, until a program director in New York happened to hear the demo and took matters into his own hands by playing it for the president of Reviver Records. The New Jersey-based label loved the song and LOCASH so much, he hopped on the next flight to Nashville to meet with Chris and Preston. "In two weeks, we had a deal on the table because of this song," recalls Preston. "It was because of the feeling of this song and the sound of this song."

As expected, Reviver Records released "I

## "I LOVE THIS LIFE"

LOCASH

WRITERS



Chris Janson



Danny Myrick

## OH DANNY BOY

In addition to his cuts as a songwriter—including Tim McGraw's "Truck Yeah" and Jason Aldean's "She's Country"—**DANNY MYRICK** has provided background vocals for numerous country artists, including Keith Anderson, Blake Shelton and Montgomery Gentry.

Love This Life" as LOCASH's first single off of their new six-song EP of the same name. It wasn't long before country radio embraced it, giving the duo their first Top 15 hit as performers after previously co-writing Keith Urban's No. 1 "You Gonna Fly" and breaking the Top 5 with Tim McGraw's "Truck Yeah."

"This song changed our lives," says Chris. "It's changed our careers. This song alone has brought fans that we never had into the LOCASH world. It's given people a brand-new perception of us."

"We were just trying to have fun that day and write an anthem," adds Preston. "Plus, anytime you get Janson in a room with a bunch of Mountain Dew, it will be fun. I think this song has always been on a journey. We're out here working hard, and our team is working hard, but there's also something about this song, and I love watching it happen. It's unreal. This thing is on a mission, and we're all part of it. It's really cool to watch this music just do its thing."

ALANNA CONAWAY





Photo by Fredricka Bawdon/Getty Images. Dorey Gormley/Jim Remy. Dorey Gormley/Jim Remy. Photo by Eric Blom/WHIP

The week of Nov. 21, 2015\*

## TOP 25 BILLBOARD ALBUMS

| TW | LW | TITLE / ARTIST  |
|----|----|---|
| 1  | 25 | <b>TRAVELLER</b><br>CHRIS STAPLETON                               |
| 2  | 1  | <b>STORYTELLER</b><br>CARRIE UNDERWOOD                            |
| 3  | -  | <b>MR. MISUNDERSTOOD</b><br>ERIC CHURCH                           |
| 4  | -  | <b>BUY ME A BOAT</b><br>CHRIS JANSON                              |
| 5  | 2  | <b>RELOADED: 20 #1 HITS</b><br>BLAKE SHELTON                      |
| 6  | 3  | <b>KILL THE LIGHTS</b><br>LUKE BRYAN                              |
| 7  | 6  | <b>MONTEVALLO</b><br>SAM HUNT                                     |
| 8  | 4  | <b>TANGLED UP</b><br>THOMAS RHETT                                 |
| 9  | 7  | <b>BETWEEN THE PINES (ACOUSTIC MIXTAPE) • SAM HUNT</b>            |
| 10 | 5  | <b>CASS COUNTY</b><br>DON HENLEY                                  |
| 11 | 8  | <b>COLD BEER CONVERSATION</b><br>GEORGE STRAIT                    |
| 12 | 17 | <b>PAIN KILLER</b><br>LITTLE BIG TOWN                             |
| 13 | 9  | <b>THE OUTSIDERS</b><br>ERIC CHURCH                               |
| 14 | 16 | <b>JEKYLL + HYDE</b><br>ZAC BROWN BAND                            |
| 15 | 32 | <b>THE BIG REVIVAL</b><br>KENNY CHESNEY                           |
| 16 | 13 | <b>NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL COUNTRY, VOLUME 8 • VARIOUS ARTISTS</b> |
| 17 | 33 | <b>PLATINUM</b><br>MIRANDA LAMBERT                                |
| 18 | 28 | <b>PAGEANT MATERIAL</b><br>KACEY MUSGRAVES                        |
| 19 | 22 | <b>ANYTHING GOES</b><br>FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE                      |
| 20 | 15 | <b>THE FIRST TIME</b><br>KELSEA BALLERINI                         |
| 21 | 19 | <b>OLD BOOTS, NEW DIRT</b><br>JASON ALDEAN                        |
| 22 | 18 | <b>ILLINOIS</b><br>BRETT ELDERIDGE                                |
| 23 | 30 | <b>RISER</b><br>DIERKS BENTLEY                                    |
| 24 | 23 | <b>JUST AS I AM</b><br>BRANTLEY GILBERT                           |
| 25 | 12 | <b>THIRTY ONE</b><br>JANA KRAMER                                  |

## TOP 25 BILLBOARD SINGLES

| TW | LW | TITLE / ARTIST   |
|----|----|--|
| 1  | 1  | <b>BREAK UP WITH HIM</b><br>OLD DOMINION               |
| 2  | 2  | <b>LET ME SEE YA GIRL</b><br>COLE SWINDELL             |
| 3  | 5  | <b>I'M COMIN' OVER</b><br>CHRIS YOUNG                  |
| 4  | 4  | <b>SMOKE BREAK</b><br>CARRIE UNDERWOOD                 |
| 5  | 6  | <b>NOTHIN' LIKE YOU</b><br>DAN + SHAY                  |
| 6  | 7  | <b>GONNA</b><br>BLAKE SHELTON                          |
| 7  | 3  | <b>ANYTHING GOES</b><br>FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE           |
| 8  | 9  | <b>GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE</b><br>JASON ALDEAN         |
| 9  | 12 | <b>TOP OF THE WORLD</b><br>TIM MCGRAW                  |
| 10 | 11 | <b>BURNING HOUSE</b><br>CAM                            |
| 11 | 13 | <b>STAY A LITTLE LONGER</b><br>BROTHERS OSBORNE        |
| 12 | 18 | <b>DIE A HAPPY MAN</b><br>THOMAS RHETT                 |
| 13 | 14 | <b>ALREADY CALLIN' YOU MINE</b><br>PARMALEE            |
| 14 | 15 | <b>I LOVE THIS LIFE</b><br>LOCASH                      |
| 15 | 17 | <b>I GOT THE BOY</b><br>JANA KRAMER                    |
| 16 | 16 | <b>RUN AWAY WITH YOU</b><br>BIG & RICH                 |
| 17 | 19 | <b>DIBS</b><br>KELSEA BALLERINI                        |
| 18 | 20 | <b>WE WENT</b><br>RANDY HOUSER                         |
| 19 | 22 | <b>BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN</b><br>SAM HUNT            |
| 20 | 23 | <b>BACKROAD SONG</b><br>GRANGER SMITH                  |
| 21 | 21 | <b>COUNTRY NATION</b><br>BRAD PAISLEY                  |
| 22 | 24 | <b>21</b><br>HUNTER HAYES                              |
| 23 | 25 | <b>(THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL</b><br>A THOUSAND HORSES |
| 24 | 29 | <b>BEAUTIFUL DRUG</b><br>ZAC BROWN BAND                |
| 25 | 26 | <b>LITTLE BIT OF YOU</b><br>CHASE BRYANT               |

## TOP 10 AMERICANA AIRPLAY

| TW | LW | TITLE / ARTIST  |
|----|----|---|
| 1  | 2  | <b>LOST TIME</b><br>DAVE ALVIN & PHIL ALVIN           |
| 2  | 1  | <b>SOMETHING MORE THAN FREE</b><br>JASON ISBELL       |
| 3  | 3  | <b>PANHANDLE RAMBLER</b><br>JOE ELY                   |
| 4  | 7  | <b>HARD TO PLEASE</b><br>THE BLACK LILLIES            |
| 5  | 4  | <b>SERVANT OF LOVE</b><br>PATTY GRIFFIN               |
| 6  | 5  | <b>SERMON ON THE ROCKS</b><br>JOSH RITTER             |
| 7  | 6  | <b>SOUTH BROADWAY ATHLETIC CLUB</b><br>BOTTLE ROCKETS |
| 8  | 9  | <b>CASS COUNTY</b><br>DON HENLEY                      |
| 9  | 8  | <b>GATES OF GOLD</b><br>LOS LOBOS                     |
| 10 | 11 | <b>THINGS THAT CAN'T BE UNDONE</b><br>CORB LUND       |

SOURCE: AMERICANA AIRPLAY CHART

## rdio TOP 5 TRENDING COUNTRY SONGS\*

| TW | TITLE / ARTIST                              |
|----|---|
| 1  | <b>TENNESSEE WHISKEY</b><br>CHRIS STAPLETON |
| 2  | <b>BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN</b><br>SAM HUNT |
| 3  | <b>SNAPBACK</b><br>OLD DOMINION             |
| 4  | <b>I'M COMIN' OVER</b><br>CHRIS YOUNG       |
| 5  | <b>SMOKE BREAK</b><br>CARRIE UNDERWOOD      |

## TOP 5 TRENDING COUNTRY/AMERICANA/SOUTHERN ALBUMS\*

| TW | TITLE / ARTIST                                     |
|----|--|
| 1  | <b>I'M COMIN' OVER</b><br>CHRIS YOUNG              |
| 2  | <b>MEAT AND CANDY</b><br>OLD DOMINION              |
| 3  | <b>DAMN COUNTRY MUSIC</b><br>TIM MCGRAW            |
| 4  | <b>FRONT ROW SEAT</b><br>JOSH ABBOTT BAND          |
| 5  | <b>THE COMPLETE HANK WILLIAMS</b><br>HANK WILLIAMS |

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\*DATA FROM NOV. 16, 2015



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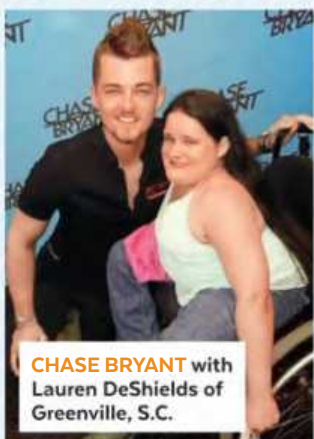
Elaine Funk of Union Grove, Wis., with  
**CANAAN SMITH**



**KEITH URBAN**  
with Judy Smith of  
Laurel, Miss.



**KIP MOORE** with  
Megan Peters of  
Corryton, Tenn.



**CHASE BRYANT** with  
Lauren DeShields of  
Greenville, S.C.



**COLE SWINDELL**  
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# WORDSEARCH

Compiled by John Reiman

## TEXAS COUNTRY

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A C H A S E B R Y A N T R A C Y B Y R D  
N C L A Y W A L K E R I I S Q G T M L F  
K W E C I R P Y A R A A S G O W R Z Y S  
S O O K Z W L L L O A R K N J R E C Y T  
U L A H A C L Z N N R T R I C A B X P B  
N R H M N C L Y E N O S I N A D M I I R  
N A T A L I E M A I N E S N S N A L Q E  
Y M R R T K N Y L E W G T E E E L E K L  
S E G K A C R E M D A R O J Y Y A F C W  
W I E C N A A L C U T O F N J F D T A O  
E D O H Y L P S C N S E F O A O N Y M F  
E D R E A B Y A O N O G E L M S A F O N  
N A G S T T O P Y Z N S R Y E T R R W I  
E M E N U N R C V H H A S A S E I I N V  
Y E J U C I E I Q A J B O W V R M Z N E  
K M O T K L E R V H P D N T N E N Z A K  
A V N T E C L E J C L Z W F R F S E E F  
O D E F R N R D N A B G N U O Y I L E K  
N O S L E N E I L L I W J Q C F I L L I

AARON WATSON  
BILLY JOE SHAVER  
CASEY JAMES  
CHASE BRYANT  
CLAY WALKER  
CLINT BLACK  
ELI YOUNG BAND  
ERIC PASLEY  
GEORGE JONES  
GEORGE STRAIT

KACEY MUSGRAVES  
KENNY ROGERS  
KEVIN FOWLER  
KRIS KRISTOFFERSON  
LEE ANN WOMACK  
LEE ROY PARNELL  
LEFTY FRIZZELL  
MADDIE MARLOW  
MARK CHESNUTT  
MIRANDA LAMBERT

NATALIE MAINES  
NEAL McCOY  
RADNEY FOSTER  
RAY PRICE  
RONNIE DUNN  
SUNNY SWEENEY  
TANYA TUCKER  
TRACY BYRD  
WAYLON JENNINGS  
WILLIE NELSON



Find the names in this wordsearch challenge submitted by **LEE LICKNACK** of Toms River, N.J. NOTE—they may appear vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward or forward. Good luck!

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"MRS.  
BEASLEY"

Makes a  
great gift!

SHE TALKS!

This doll is an adult collectible, NOT A TOY.  
It may contain parts and other materials  
inappropriate for small children.

On TV's hit "Family Affair," this lovable doll was Buffy's best friend...and maybe yours, too, when you were small. Now "Mrs. Beasley" is back in our collectible vinyl edition. She's just as you remember her, from her square glasses to her wise and knowing smile...and she *talks* like the original, too! Simply pull the ring on "Mrs. Beasley's" back and she'll speak to you in the 11 phrases of the original doll, characterized by actress Cheryl Ladd to sound just like the kindly voice you remember.

"Mrs. Beasley" original toy vinyl dolls in mint condition sell today for *up to \$400*...but this one is yours to pick up and love again for just \$99.99,\* payable in four payments of \$24.99, backed by our 365-day, unconditional guarantee. Relive the memories...order today!

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Telephone

Address

Apt. No.

City

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Zip

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# NASH Country Weekly

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Senior Writers  
Bob Paxman, Tammy Ragusa

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Assoc. Photo Editor/Photographer  
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Web Producer/Designer  
Jason Simanek

Copy Editors  
John Reiman  
Steve Morley

**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Publisher  
Jeff Meltesen

For all advertising  
inquiries contact  
615-727-6952  
jmeltesen@countryweekly.com

Cumulus Media, Inc.  
3280 Peachtree Road, NW, Suite 2300  
Atlanta, GA 30305

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## **JUST RELEASED:** **Australia's Purest Silver Dollar EVER!** **Red-hot new 2016 Silver Kangaroo is a double threat!**

Up to sixty million ounces of silver each year come from Down Under. In fact, Australia is home to the single largest silver mine in the world! Award-winning silver dollars from Australia have been popular for decades. But now, Australia has managed to even top *itself*!

A just-released new legal-tender Australian Kangaroo Silver Dollar is making headlines as the purest Australian silver coin ever. Actually, this spectacular new silver dollar claims *two* prestigious "first-ever" titles!

### **Purest Silver Dollar Ever**

Most world-class silver coins are struck from 99.9% pure silver. But the new 2016 Australian Kangaroo One Ounce Silver Dollar is the first Australian coin to be struck from 99.99% pure silver. It's a record-setting silver dollar that's creating a worldwide sensation among silver lovers and coin collectors alike!

Each full Troy ounce Kangaroo Silver Dollar is **government-guaranteed** for its 99.99% purity, authenticity, and legal-tender status.

### **Brilliant Uncirculated Kangaroo Silver Dollar**

In addition to being the purest Australian Silver Dollar, it's also struck in stunning Brilliant Uncirculated (BU) condition by the award-winning Perth Mint. This beautiful, high quality finish further adds to its collectibility and popularity. As official Australian legal-tender, the coin features the portrait of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

### **First-Ever Micro-Laser Authentication Feature**

Collectors are first drawn to the dramatic image of a bounding kangaroo, but the coin also features a hidden secret. For the first time ever, a microscopic letter "A" has been micro-laser engraved on the surface of the coin as both a foil to counterfeiters. It's hidden in the "A" of the word *Australia*.

### **Get the Jump on This Winner**

This silver dollar has it all: 99.99% purity, stunning Brilliant Uncirculated condition, and three "first-ever" titles! And best of all, you can lock in yours now for a truly

remarkable price—only \$22.95 each (plus s/h). You can even claim **FREE SHIPPING** on any order over \$150. But you'd better hop to it!

### **Satisfaction Guaranteed**

You must be 100% satisfied with your 2016 Australian Kangaroo One Ounce Silver Dollars or return them within 30 days of receipt for a prompt refund (*less s/h*). Don't miss out on this exciting new release. Call immediately to secure these Australian Kangaroo Silver Dollars NOW!

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"My dad would have been proud of me [at the CMAs]. He would have loved to have seen the night and been there. He would have enjoyed that. He would have enjoyed knowing that for at least a few more years, I might have a job, which is always the fear when you have a self-employed child [laughs]."

**CHRIS STAPLETON**





**VINCE GILL**  
BY THE NUMBERS

**5** CMA Male Vocalist of the Year Awards

**20** GRAMMYS

**58** AGE

**2,478th** STAR ON THE HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME

**2007** YEAR INDUCTED INTO THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME

"I'm a social media fanatic! I love Twitter, I love Instagram, I love SnapChat. I've been using Periscope a lot. It's been a lot of fun. I've been doing a show every week from my living room and teaching guitar lessons to fans."

**LINDSAY ELL**



## Mac Daddy

Singer/songwriter **MAC DAVIS** hit the top of the pop charts in 1972 with "Baby, Don't Get Hooked on Me," a tune he wrote when a record exec insisted he write a song with a "hook." Two years later, Mac won the ACM Entertainer of the Year award.

## Ain't No Dummy

**HANK WILLIAMS SR.** started calling his son **BOCEPHUS** after watching Grand Ole Opry comedian Rod Brasfield's comedy act, in which he used a puppet named Bocephus. As the story goes, Hank Sr. thought little Hank Jr. looked like the puppet and the name stuck.



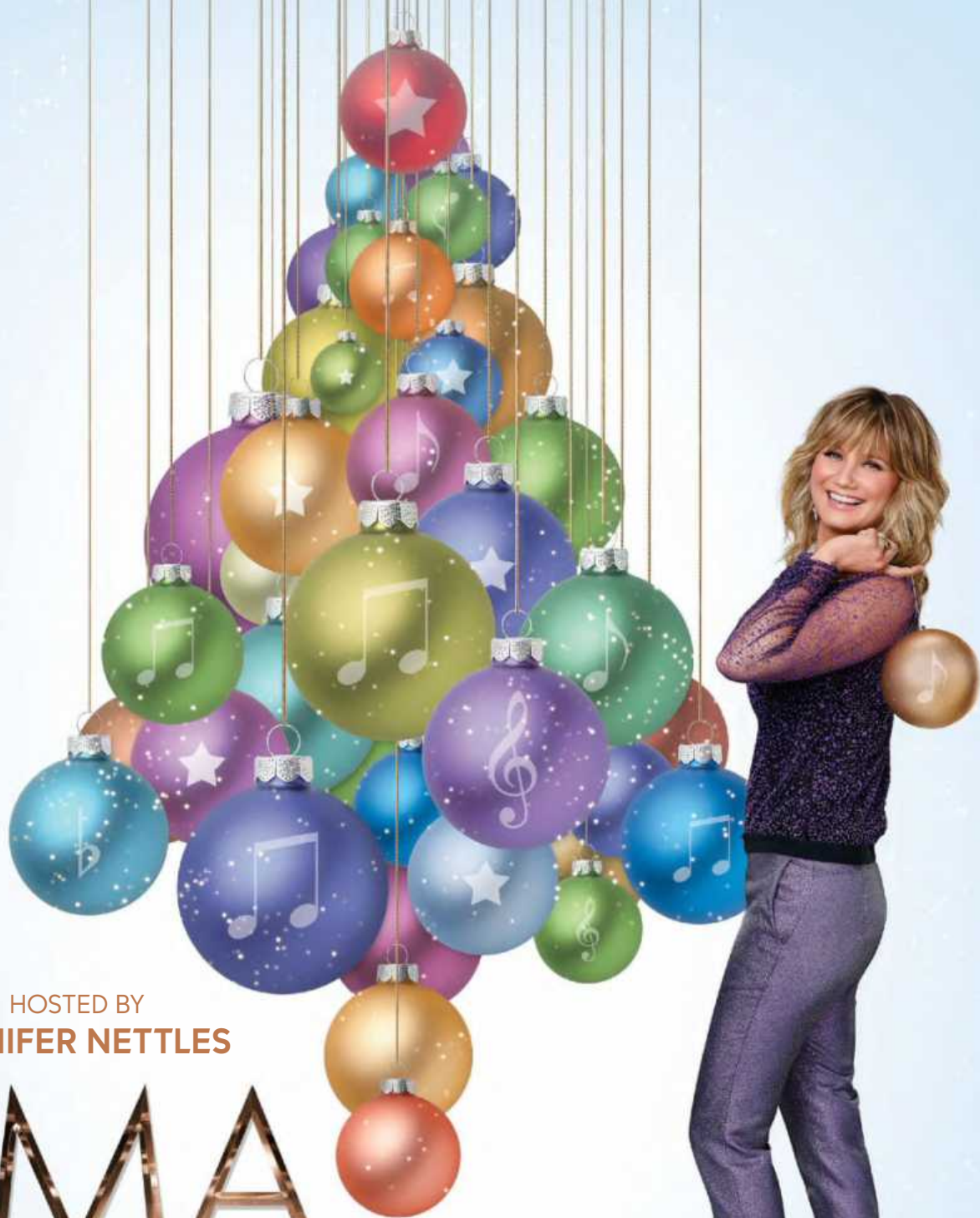
"The great thing about music events is you can express yourself, be who you want to be and there are no rules and, most of the time, there are no chaperones for these crazy college kids."

**DUSTIN LYNCH**



Chris by Jason Davis/Getty Images; Williams family photo by Aaron Ciesler/The Judy Nelson Group; Vince by Jim Wright/Auerbach PR; Lindsay by Jason Meyers/BBR Music Group; Mac courtesy Mac Davis; Dustin by Daniel DeSlover/Corbis





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**THURSDAY**  
**DEC 3 9|8c**



Performances by  
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JEWEL **KELSEA BALLERINI** LEANN RIMES **LINDSEY STIRLING**  
MARTINA McBRIDE w/MICHAEL W. SMITH **MICKEY GUYTON** PENTATONIX

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